### UNIVERSITY NAME

#### DOCTORAL THESIS

### Thesis Title

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A thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

in the

Research Group Name Department or School Name

January 11, 2018

## **Declaration of Authorship**

I, John SMITH, declare that this thesis titled, "Thesis Title" and the work presented in it are my own. I confirm that:

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- Where I have consulted the published work of others, this is always clearly attributed.
- Where I have quoted from the work of others, the source is always given. With the exception of such quotations, this thesis is entirely my own work.
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"Thanks to my solid academic training, today I can write hundreds of words on virtually any topic without possessing a shred of information, which is how I got a good job in journalism."

Dave Barry

#### **UNIVERSITY NAME**

### **Abstract**

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by John Smith

The Thesis Abstract is written here (and usually kept to just this page). The page is kept centered vertically so can expand into the blank space above the title too...

# Acknowledgements

The acknowledgments and the people to thank go here, don't forget to include your project advisor. . .

# **Contents**

D	eclara	ition of	f Authorship	iii				
A	bstrac	ct		vii				
A	cknov	wledge	ments	ix				
1	Intr	Introduction and Literature Review						
	1.1	Tropo	spheric ozone and air quality					
		1.1.1	Air Quality					
			Ozone					
			Particulate matter and SOA					
			Factors influencing ozone and PM					
			How do we measure air quality?					
		1.1.2	Ozone transported from the stratosphere					
		1.1.3	Ozone formed in the troposphere					
	1.2	Hydro	oxyl (OH) and other radicals					
			Hydroxyl radicals					
			Nitrate radicals					
	1.3	Isopre	ene and other VOCs	. 8				
		1.3.1	What are VOCs	. 8				
		1.3.2	What do they Do?	. 9				
		1.3.3	The isoprene cascade	. 11				
			Ozononlysis	. 13				
			SOA	. 13				
		1.3.4	How and where do we measure them?	. 14				
		1.3.5	Emissions estimates	. 16				
	1.4	Forma	aldehyde (HCHO)	. 19				
		1.4.1	How HCHO is measured	. 19				
		1.4.2	Sources and sinks	. 20				
		1.4.3	Satellite inversion	. 23				
		1.4.4	Satellite HCHO detection	. 25				
			OMI measurements	. 26				
			DOAS	. 27				
			AMF	. 28				
			Satellite uncertainties	. 28				
		1.4.5	Glyoxal TODO: move somewhere fitting?	. 29				
	1.5	Mode	ls	. 30				
		1.5.1	How can models help	. 30				
		1.5.2	Relevant model frameworks	. 32				
			Box models	. 32				
			Chemical transport	. 32				
			Land based emissions	. 33				
			Radiative transfer	34				

		1.5.3	Factors affecting isoprene emissions estimates	34
		1.5.4	Uncertainties	35
			Emissions Inventories	35
			Resolution	35
			Transport	35
			Chemistry mechanisms	
			Clouds	36
			Soil Moisture	36
	1.6	Aims		36
	1.7		Access	
A	App	endix A	A	39
			Resolution	39
В	Frec	quently	Asked Questions	41
			do I change the colors of links?	41
Bi	bliog	raphy		43

# **List of Figures**

1.1	Ozone production figure copied from Mazzuca et al., 2016	10
1.2	The overall radiative forcings and uncertainties of several atmospheric	
	constituents This is an image taken from Forster et al., 2007, found at	
	https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg1/en/faq-2-1.	
	html	15
1.3	The overall radiative forcings and uncertainties of several atmospheric constituents This is an image taken from <i>IPCC</i> , 2013: Climate Change	
	2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the	
	Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,	
	chapter 8	16
1.4	Part of a figure from Guenther et al., 2006 showing global isoprene	
	emission factors.	18
1.5	HCHO spectrum, with a typical band of wavelengths used for DOAS	
	path measurements. This is a portion of an image from Davenport	
	et al., 2015	20
1.6	Image from Lee et al., 2015.	21
1.7	An example spectrum showing interferences used for species concen-	
	tration measurements by GOME-2. Image by EUMETSAT and ESA	
	(EUMETSAT, 2015	26
1 8	Standard hov model parameters image taken from Jacob 1999	31

# **List of Tables**

A.1	The 47 level vertica	l grid used by GEOS-Chem	40
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## **List of Abbreviations**

LAH List Abbreviations HereWSF What (it) Stands For

# **Physical Constants**

Speed of Light  $c_0 = 2.99792458 \times 10^8 \,\mathrm{m \, s^{-1}}$  (exact)

xxi

# **List of Symbols**

a distance

P power  $W(J s^{-1})$ 

 $\omega$  angular frequency rad

xxiii

For/Dedicated to/To my...

### Chapter 1

## Introduction and Literature Review

#### 1.1 Tropospheric ozone and air quality

#### 1.1.1 Air Quality

Australia is largely covered by environments which are not heavily influenced by human activity. These regions are natural (biogenic) sources of the trace gases (those which make up less than 1% of the earth's atmosphere). Trace gases in the atmosphere can have a large impact on living conditions. They react in complex ways with other elements (anthropogenic and natural), affecting various ecosystems upon which life depends. Biogenic emissions affect surface pollution levels, potentially enhancing particulate matter (PM) and ozone levels.

#### Ozone

Ozone  $(O_3)$  is mostly located in the stratosphere, where it helpfully prevents much of the shorter wave length solar radiation from reaching the earth's surface (ie UV light). However around 11% of the total column of ozone is located in the troposphere (TODO: cite), where it has several deleterious effects. Ozone in the lower atmosphere is a serious hazard that causes health problems (Hsieh and Liao, 2013), damages agricultural crops worth billions of dollars (Avnery et al., 2013; Yue et al., 2017), and increases the rate of climate warming (Myhre and Shindell, 2013). Around 5 to 20 percent of all air pollution related deaths are due to ozone (Monks et al., 2015). In the short term, ozone concentrations of  $\sim$ 50-60 ppbv over eight hours or  $\sim$ 80 ppbv over one hour are agreed to constitude a human health hazard (Ayers and Simpson, 2006; Lelieveld et al., 2009). Long term exposure to lower levels cause problems with crop loss and ecosystem damage (Ashmore, Emberson, and Murray Frank, 2003), and both short and long term concentrations may get worse in the future (Lelieveld et al., 2009; Stevenson et al., 2013). Further tropospheric ozone enhancements are projected to drive reductions in global crop yields equivalent to losses of up to \$USD<sub>2000</sub> 35 billion per year by 2030 (Avnery et al., 2013), along with detrimental health outcomes equivalent to ~\$USD<sub>2000</sub>11.8 billion per year by 2050 (Selin et al., 2009). Recently Yue et al., 2017 showed that the net effect of near-surface ozone on is a  $\sim 14\%$  decrease in net primary productivity (NPP) in China, which could be reduced with drastic measures required to reduce this by 70% by 2030.

The tropospheric ozone concentrations rely on climate and ozone precursor emissions; including NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, CO, VOCs, and HCHO (Marvin2017; Atkinson, 2000; Young et al., 2013). Ozone predictions are uncertain and difficult due to the vagaries of changing climate which affects both transport, deposition, destruction, and plant based precursor emissions. All of these processes are tightly coupled and difficult

to accurately model, as they depend on uncertain assumptions such as  $CO_2$  dependency (Young et al., 2013). Even with all the work done in the prior decades there remains large uncertainties about ozone precursors in the troposphere (Mazzuca et al., 2016). Ozone is also a very important substance for formation of radicals (NO<sub>3</sub>, OH) in the troposphere through photolysis in the presence of water.

#### Particulate matter and SOA

PM in the atmosphere is also a major problem, causing an estimated 2-3 million deaths annually (Hoek et al., 2013; Krewski et al., 2009; Silva et al., 2013; Lelieveld et al., 2015). Aerosols are suspended particulates and liquid compounds in the atmosphere, of which particulate matter (PM) is an important subset. Fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) penetrates deep into the lungs and is detrimental to human health. Some PM comes from small organic aerosols (OA) emitted in the particulate phase and referred to as primary OA (POA). A substantial amount of PM is due to gaseous organic compounds transforming in the troposphere leading to what's known as secondary OA (SOA) (Kroll and Seinfeld, 2008). Formation of SOA is generally due to VOC oxidation and subsequent reactions, while removal from the atmosphere is largely due to wet or dry deposition, and cloud scavenging (Kanakidou et al., 2005).

#### Factors influencing ozone and PM

One important factor, affecting both PM and ozone concentration, is a group called Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). The major source of VOCs in the atmosphere is biogenic, with around 90% of emissions (globally) coming from natural sources (Guenther et al., 1995; Guenther et al., 2006; Millet et al., 2006). Global non-methane VOC (NMVOC) levels are estimated at 85 %, 13 %, and 3 % from biogenic, anthropogenic, and pyrogenic sources respectively (Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). They also and affect radical levels, which drive much of the chemistry in our atmosphere. Methane and isoprene each comprise around a third of the global total emissions of VOCs (Guenther et al., 2006). However, methane is relatively long lived (years) and is well mixed in the atmosphere while isoprene levels are very volatile and spatially diverse due to a life time of around an hour. This means that methane measurements and concentrations are relatively well understood, while NMVOCs are less so.

Due to the lack of in-situ ground based measurements, estimates of VOC emissions are uncertain, with large scale extrapolation required Millet et al., 2006. VOC emission estimates are based on (and highly sensitive to) many factors, including plant type and soil moisture (Guenther et al., 1995), neither of which are well characterised in Australia (Sindelarova et al., 2014; Bauwens et al., 2016). Changes in parameterisation of soil moisture in the Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature (MEGAN, Guenther et al., 1995) lead to massive changes in Australian isoprene emission estimates (Sindelarova et al., 2014). This has an compounding effect on the large uncertainties of biogenic VOC emissions (Guenther et al., 2000; Millet et al., 2006).

Another important factor is  $NO_X$  (NO,  $NO_2$ ) which has a complex non-linear relationship with both ozone and VOCs. TODO: talk about NOx chemistry? Since many Australian cities are on the edge of regions with rich VOC emissions, it is very important to clarify the quantity, type, and cause of VOC emissions. The existence of satellite data covering remote areas provides an opportunity to improve VOC emissions estimates leading to more robust models of global climate and chemistry.

Understanding of emissions from these areas is necessary to inform national policy on air pollution levels.

Smoke plumes from biomass burning can carry ozone precursors, creating higher ozone concentrations downwind of the plume's source. Fire emissions include a range of chemicals and each year the affects of fire or burning seasons blanket the northern and southern hemispheres independently. Biomass burning in southern Africa and South America has previously been shown to have a major influence on atmospheric composition in Australia (Oltmans et al., 2001; Gloudemans et al., 2007; Edwards et al., 2006), particularly from July to December (Pak et al., 2003; Liu et al., 2016a).

#### How do we measure air quality?

Australian air quality is monitored independently within each state, using various metrics. These metrics are measured by varying numbers of monitoring stations in each state. In New South Wales (NSW) the metrics used to determine air quality are: particulate matter (PM), O<sub>3</sub>, CO, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and visibility. PM is separated into size bins: with radius < 2.5  $\mu m$  and < 10  $\mu m$  being PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> respectively. An air quality index equal to the worst of these metrics is used for NSW as shown at http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/aqms/aqitable.htm. Similar methods are used in other states to get an idea of air quality. Measurement stations are generally located in population centres, and don't regularly measure precursor emissions. This is an important omission as naturally emitted precursor gases often get transported into cities where they affect air quality.

Australia is dominated by areas with little anthropogenic influence and no ground based measurements of the natural emissions taking place (VanDerA et al., 2008). One source of information which covers the entirety of Australia is remote sensing data. This comes from instruments on satellites which overpass daily recording reflected solar (and emitted terrestrial) radiation. In conjunction with atmospheric chemistry and radiative models, these measurements can be used to quantify the abundance of several chemical species in the atmosphere. These measurements can then be used to determine the unmeasured emissions of precursor gases which affect air quality. Satellite data allow us to verify large scale model estimates of natural emissions. Satellite measurements can be performed using spectral fitting followed by conversion to vertical column densities. The use of multiple satellites can even be used to detect intradiel concentrations in trace gas columns, as shown in Stavrakou et al., 2015 using OMI and GOME-2 measurements, which have respective overpass times of 1330 and 0930 LT. These various measurements can be used to improve models, which allows prediction of harmful and costly events, and prevention of scenarios in which pollution events are likely.

In Australia most long term air quality measurements are performed in or near large cities. Estimates of atmospheric gas and particulate densities, and their distributions over much of the continent are uncertain, lacking long term in-situ measurements. Although the majority of VOC emissions globally are from biogenic sources, anthropogenic emissions in populated areas must be managed. Millet et al., 2008 show that anthropogenic emissions of HCHO in America are mostly negligible, although improved sensitivity from oversampling allowed satellite detection of enhanced HCHO concentrations over Houston and Texas (Zhu et al., 2014). This is not the case in China, since massive population centres and industrial districts are emitting huge amounts of VOCs into the atmosphere (Fu et al., 2007). Fu et al., 2007 use GOME measurements over Asia and derive biogenic, anthropogenic, and pyrogenic

VOC emissions, and Zhu et al., 2014 use oversampling of the OMI HCHO measurements to determine anthropogenic highly-reactive VOC emissions. Then with their updated emissions they show how surface ozone is affected, with a seasonal increase of 5-20 ppb simulated by GEOS-Chem.

Many models lack in-situ measurements with which to verify their chemical mechanisms, leading to large discrepancies, as seen in Marvin et al., 2017. TODO: briefly talk about Marvin2017a takeaways.

In-situ measurements also contain errors, depending on the device used and chemical being measured this error can be significant. Dunne et al., 2017 analyse the uncertainty of VOC measurements (including isoprene) using three different techniques during a campaign in Sydney in 2012. The major sources of uncertainty in measurement techniques included interference from non-target compouds and under-reporting. Overall isoprene uncertainty in their dataset of isoprene measurements was a factor of 1.5 to 2. This can feed into uncertainties in modelling and satellite retrievals, as verification and correlations are affected.

Since the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was established in August 1987, and ratified in August 1989, several satellites and many measurement stations were set up to monitor ozone in the stratosphere. However, in the southern hemisphere there are relatively few records of ozone (Huang et al., 2017). One method of measuring ozone in the troposphere and stratosphere is by releasing weather balloons (with attached ozone detectors) which take readings as they rise up to around 30 km, giving a vertical profile of concentrations. Since 1986, Lauder, New Zealand (45°S, 170°E) has released ozonesondes allowing a multi-decadal analysis of ozone concentrations over the city (Brinksma et al., 2002). Kerguelan Island (49.2°S, 70.1°E), also has a record of ozonesonde profiles, which are directly in the path of biomass burning smoke plumes transported off shore from Africa (Baray et al., 2012). SHADOZ is the southern hemispheric additional ozone project, which have released sondes from 15 sites at different times http://tropo.gsfc.nasa.gov/shadoz/.

TODO: get access to Hegglin (10.1038/ngeo604) (Hegglin and Shepherd, 2009) TODO: Include ozone hole treaty and things put in place for that

Combining satellite data with model outcomes provides a platform for the understanding of natural processes which is especially useful over Australia. Due to the low availability of in-situ data over most of the Australian continent, a combination of the models with satellite data may provide improved understanding of emissions from Australian landscapes. Improved emissions estimates will in turn improve the accuracy of CTMs, providing better predictions of atmospheric composition and its response to ongoing environmental change.

Box models are much smaller scale than global CTMs, examining one uniform environment with many parametrisations such as transport and emissions. Box models can be used to check chemical mechanisms in specific scenarios, such as high or low  $NO_X$  environments. **Marvin2017** use a box model matching conditions in southeast USA to evaluate isoprene mechanisms from several models.

While satellite data is effective at covering huge areas (the entire earth) it only exists at a particular time of day, is subject to cloud cover, and generally does not have fine horizontal or vertical resolution. Concentrations retrieved by satellites have large uncertainties, which arise in the process of transforming spectra to total column measurements, as well as instrument degradation (satellite instruments are hard to tinker with once they are launched). Uncertainty in transforming satellite spectra comes from a range of things, including measurement difficulties introduced by clouds, and instrument sensitivity to particular aerosols (Millet et al., 2006). Many

products require analysis of cloud and aerosol properties in order to estimate concentration or total column amounts (Palmer et al., 2001; Palmer, 2003; Marais et al., 2012; Vasilkov et al., 2017). There are two types of error, arguably the worst of these is systematic error (or bias) which normally indicates a problem in calculation or instrumentation. If the systematic error is known, it can be corrected for by either offsetting data in the opposite direction, or else fixing the cause. A proper fix can only be performed if the sources of error are known and there is a way of correcting or bypassing it. Random error is the other type (often reported as some function of a datasets variance, or uncertainty), and this can be reduced through averaging either spatially or temporally. By taking the average of several measurements, any random error can be reduced by a factor of one over the square root of the number of measurements. This is done frequently for satellite measurements of trace gases (which are often near to the detection limit over much of the globe). For example: Vigouroux et al., 2009 reduce the measurement uncertainty (in SCIAMACHY HCHO columns) by at least a factor of 4 through averaging daily over roughly 500km around Saint-Denis, and only using days with at least 20 good measurements. The main source of error in satellite retrievals of HCHO are due to instrument detection sensitivities, and the vertical multiplication factor (discussed in more detail in Section (TODO: fix ref)??) (Millet et al., 2006).

#### 1.1.2 Ozone transported from the stratosphere

What drives ozone in the troposphere? Two main contributors are transport from the stratosphere and creation due to biogenic emissions of precursors. At smaller (regional) scales anthropogenic emissions are also important, especially in large cities such as Sydney due to  $NO_X$  emissions from traffic and power production.

In the stratosphere ozone production is generally driven by the Chapman mechanism, as high energy light (with wavelengths  $\lambda < 242$  nm) photolyses the molecular oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere (**BrasseurJacob2017**). The Chapman mechanism involves several equations which lead to rough equilibrium of O, O<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> and pressure, as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} O_2 + hv(\lambda < 242\text{nm}) &\rightarrow O + O \\ O + O_2 + M &\rightarrow O_3 + M \\ O_3 + hv(\lambda < 1180\text{nm}) &\rightarrow O + O_2 \\ O + O_3 &\rightarrow O_2 + O_2 \end{aligned}$$

Where hv represents radiation and M is an inert molecule (such as N<sub>2</sub>). The high energy photons ( $\lambda < 242$  nm) are present from the top of the atmosphere but are mostly removed before reaching the troposphere. The lifetime of O against loss by O<sub>2</sub> is less than a second in the troposphere, and produced O<sub>3</sub> quickly returns to O and O<sub>2</sub>, as low energy ( $\lambda < 1180$  nm) light and M are abundant. The gradient of light penetration in addition to the logarithmic decrease in atmospheric pressure (which affects M abundance) drives (using the Chapman equation) the vertical profile of ozone into what is called the ozone layer, where most of the ozone is in the stratosphere. This mechanism requires radiation so only takes place during the daytime, during the night there are different processes driving ozone chemistry.

Historically (in the late 1990's), ozone transported down from the stratosphere was thought to contribute 10-40 ppb to tropospheric ozone levels, matching tropospheric production (Atkinson, 2000; Stohl et al., 2003). This number was revised down over the years as measurement and modelling campaigns improved our understanding of global scale transport, mixing, and chemistry (Monks et al., 2015). Recently Kuang et al., 2017 analysed various measurements in south-east USA and observed STT influence which can be seen to affect surface ozone levels. In their work they use high spectral resolution lidar (HSRL), ozonesondes, ozone lidar, and airborn in-situ measurements give the structure and temporal evolution of ozone and the low front weather system. An analysis of the Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate Model Inter-comparison Project (ACCMIP) simulations by Young et al., 2013 found STT is responsible for  $540 \pm 140$  Tg yr $^{-1}$ , equivalent to  $\sim$ 11% of the tropospheric ozone column, with the remainder produced photochemically (Monks et al., 2015).

Ozone transported to the troposphere from the stratosphere can occur through diffusion (slow process (TODO: Cite)) or through mixing, often called Stratosphere to Troposphere Transport events (STT), or intrusions. TODO: compare these two processes and their impacts briefly. Recently global chemical transport models (CTMs) have been used to trace how much ozone is being transported to the troposphere from the stratosphere. There are a few methods of doing this, such as Ojha et al., 2016, who use the ECHAM5 CTM with a tracer that keeps track of ozone formed and transported from the stratosphere. Model based estimates generally require validation against actual measurements, such as those from ozonesondes or satellites. Hegglin and Shepherd, 2009 estimate that climate change will lead to increased STT due to an acceleration in the Brewer Dobson circulation. They estimate  $\sim$  30, and  $\sim$  121 Tg yr $^{-1}$  increases (relative to 1965) in the southern and northern hemispheres respectively

Liu et al., 2017 examine southern hemispheric ozone and the processes which control its inter-annual variability (IAV). IAV is the standard deviation of ozone anomalies (difference from the monthly mean). They show that ozone transported from the stratosphere plays a major role in the upper troposphere, especially over the southern Indian ocean during austral winter. While stratospheric transport mostly impacts the upper troposphere, some areas are impacted right down to the surface. Liu et al., 2017 look at modelled tropospheric ozone sensitivity to changes in stratospheric ozone, ozone precursor emissions, and lightning over the southern hemisphere from 1992–2011. Their work suggest ozone at 430 hPa is mostly stratospheric in September over 20°S to 60°S at all longitudes. They also see tropospheric ozone sensitivity to emissions from South America (0–20°S, 72.5–37.5°W), southern Africa (5–10°S, 12-38°E), and South to South-east Asia (70-125°E, 10°S–40°N). In the USA recent work by Lin et al., 2015 suggests that intrusions during spring are increasing surface ozone levels. Their work also recommends that understanding of frequency and cause of STT needs to be improved to effectively implement air quality standards.

#### 1.1.3 Ozone formed in the troposphere

Ozone is formed in the troposphere through oxidation of VOCs in the presence of  $NO_X$ . Net formation or loss of  $O_3$  is determined by interactions between VOCs,  $NO_X$ , and  $HO_X$ , and is a complicated system of positive and negative feedbacks (Atkinson, 2000). Tropospheric ozone is lost via chemical destruction and dry deposition, estimated to be  $4700 \pm 700$  Tg yr<sup>-1</sup> and  $1000 \pm 200$  Tg yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively

(Stevenson et al., 2006). The main loss channel is through equation 1.1, where photolysis and pressure create OH from the  $O_3$ .

TODO: formulae which regulate ozone levels Ozone in rural areas is often higher than in populous cities, as the high NO levels titrate the  $O_3$ . Equation 1.2 shows how NO and  $O_3$  lead to  $NO_2$  and the very short lived  $NO_3$  radical.

TODO: more on ozone formation Ozone precursor concentrations are largely driven by emissions of VOCs and  $NO_X$ .

#### 1.2 Hydroxyl (OH) and other radicals

#### Hydroxyl radicals

The OH radical drives many processes in the atmosphere, especially during the day when photolysis of ozone drives OH concentrations (Atkinson, 2000). OH is a key species which reacts with nearly all the organic compounds in the troposphere. The exceptions are chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and Halons not containing H atoms (Atkinson, 2000). OH and  $HO_2$  concentrations largely determine the oxidative capacity of the atmosphere. Oxidation and photolysis are the two main processes through which VOCs are broken down into HCHO,  $O_3$ ,  $CO_2$  and various other species. Over land, isoprene ( $C_5H_8$ ) and monoterpenes ( $C_10H_16$ ) account for 50% and 30% of the OH reactivity respectively (Fuentes et al., 2000).

Ozone is an important precursor to HO, as excited oxygen atoms ( $O(^{1}D)$ ) are created through photolysis, which then go on to mix with water and form OH, as shown in this equation taken from Atkinson, 2000:

$$O_3 + \text{hv} \to O_2 + O(^1D) \quad (\lambda \le 335 \text{nm})$$
 $O(^1D) + M \to O(^3P) + M \quad (M = N_2, O_2)$ 
 $O(^3P) + O_2 + M \to O_3 + M \quad (M = \text{air})$ 
 $O(^1D) + H_2O \to 2OH$ 
(1.1)

This shows how some of the  $O(^1D)$  recycles back to Ozone, while some forms OH. NB: The wavelength was updated to 350 nm in Atkinson and Arey, 2003.

In the late 90's it was understood that OH radicals are formed exclusively from photolysis of  $O_3$ , HONO, HCHO, and other carbonyls ( $R_2C=O$ ) Atkinson, 2000. Isoprene was thought to be a sink of OH until it was shown by Paulot et al., 2009b that the radicals are recycled. This recycling process is discussed in more detail in section 1.3.3. Monoterpene oxidation by  $O_3$ , OH and  $NO_3$  radicals may also form aerosols, with ozone forming the most particles (Kanakidou et al., 2005).

#### Nitrate radicals

Nitrate radicals  $NO_3$  are also largely formed through ozone reactions. They are photolysed very rapidly during they day, with a lifetime of about 5 s (Atkinson, 2000). If NO and  $O_3$  are both in the atmosphere, the following reactions (Atkinson, 2000) occur:

$$NO + O_3 \rightarrow NO_2 + O_2$$
  
 $NO_2 + O_3 \rightarrow NO_3 + O_2$   
 $NO_3 + \text{hv} \rightarrow NO + O_2$  (~ 10%)  
 $NO_3 + \text{hv} \rightarrow NO_2 + O(^3P)$  (~ 90%)

A build up of  $NO_3$  radicals can be seen at night, when the quick photolysis is not occurring (Atkinson, 2000; Brown et al., 2009).

Since radicals play such a big role in regulating many chemical reactions in the atmosphere it's important for models to accurately represent them (eg. **Travis2014**). This is difficult as they are coupled with so many other species and measurements of OH are not readily available on a global scale.

#### 1.3 Isoprene and other VOCs

#### 1.3.1 What are VOCs

Organic compounds are members of a large class of chemicals whose molecules contain carbon, with the exception of a few compounds such as carbides, carbonates (CO<sub>3</sub>), and simple oxides of carbon and cyanides. Organic compounds can be categorised based on their vapour pressure, which is the tendency of a liquid or solid to vaporise. Compounds with high vapour pressures at standard temperature are classed as volatile, and have a felicity to evaporate at low temperatures. Plants contain tens of thousands of organic compounds, it's likely that fewer than 40 are emitted due to the low volatility of most of them (Guenther et al., 2000).

Atmospheric organic compounds are legion and differ by orders of magnitude with respect to their fundamental properties, such as volatility, reactivity, and cloud droplet formation propensity. Volatile organic compounds have vapour pressure greater than  $10^{-5}$  atm, and are mostly generated naturally by plants, which emit around 1000 Tg yr $^{-1}$ (Guenther et al., 1995; Glasius and Goldstein, 2016). Due to their high volatility these compounds are generally seen in the gas phase. Organic compounds with a lower volatility are classed as semi-volatile (SVOCs: vapour pressure between  $10^{-5}$  and  $10^{-11}$  atm) are seen in both gas and particle phase depending on temperature and pressure. Organic compounds with even lower vapour pressure are generally found in the particle phase in aerosol particulate matter (Glasius and Goldstein, 2016).

Isoprene, or 2-methylbuta-1,3-diene, is a VOC with the chemical formula  $C_5H_8$ . It is of major importance to the atmosphere, as it is involved in various processes which alter the oxidative capacity of the atmosphere. NMVOCs are alkanes, alkenes, aromatic hydrocarbons and isoprene, with isoprene being the most prominent. Guenther et al., 1995, and subsequent updates (Guenther et al., 2000; Guenther et al., 2006; Guenther et al., 2012), have been used ubiquitously by the atmospheric community as a global estimate of isoprene emissions, at roughly 500-600 Tg yr $^{-1}$ , emitted mostly during the day. Recently an estimate of global isoprene emissions has been made using a completely different model, of around 465 Tg C yr $^{-1}$ , by Messina et al., 2016 using ORCHIDEE. The global emission factors model used to derive both these estimates is based on modelling emissions from different plant species (phenotypes), and relatively few Australian species are used when forming in these estimates.

Major emitters are tropical broadleafs (notably eucalypts), and scrubs (Guenther et al., 2006; Arneth et al., 2008; Niinemets et al., 2010; Monks et al., 2015). Australia has the potential to be a major hotspot of isoprene emissions according to Guenther et al., 2012, which shows heavy emissions factors in the region. Although recent work suggests that some Australian eucalypts may not be as egregious isoprene emitters as once thought Emmerson et al., 2016.

Isoprene emissions are often classified as either anthropogenic, biogenic, or pyrogenic. The natural or biogenic sources are roughly ten times higher than the anthropogenic VOC sources (Guenther et al., 2006; Kanakidou et al., 2005). Land use

changes could drastically affect isoprene sources, for instance in the tropics where large scale deforestation has occurred, converting forest into crop lands (Kanakidou et al., 2005). VOCs are removed by wet and dry deposition, OH oxidation, reaction with NO<sub>3</sub>, ozonolysis (at night time in polluted areas) or photolysis (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Brown et al., 2009). The process of deposition only accounts for a small fraction of the VOC loss, with the possible exception of the long lived methane compound (Atkinson and Arey, 2003).

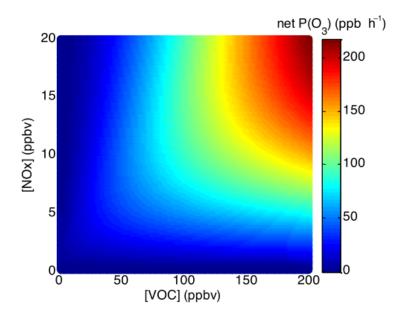
Isoprene affects  $NO_X$  and  $HO_Y$  cycling, see for example formulae 1.1, 1.2. In the presence of  $NO_X$ , isoprene forms tropospheric ozone and SOAs (Wagner, 2002; Millet et al., 2006). It has a short lifetime during the day, roughly an hour due to OH oxidation (Atkinson and Arey, 2003)). At night when OH concentrations have dropped, isoprene can remain in the atmosphere to be transported. Typically less than half of this night time isoprene is removed through ozonolysis (Atkinson and Arey, 2003), however, in polluted areas where high levels of  $NO_X$  exist, isoprene is consumed by a different radical. During the night time, nitrate radicals (NO<sub>3</sub>) build up, especially in areas with high  $NO_X$  levels. In areas with high  $NO_X$  levels, greater than 20% of the isoprene emitted late in the day ends up being oxidised by the NO<sub>3</sub> radical over night (Brown et al., 2009). So while night time isoprene is not as highly concentrated, is does have varying biogenic and anthropogenic sinks. At night isoprene has affects on both NO<sub>X</sub> concentrations and ozone levels, and can form harmful SOAs (Brown et al., 2009; Mao et al., 2013). The night-time concentrations of OH and ozone also have a complex effect on  $NO_X$  removal in high latitude winters, when photolysis and NO reactions are reduced (Ayers and Simpson, 2006).

Bottom up inventories of VOCs remain largely uncertain due to extensive extrapolation over plant functional types, changing land cover, and parameterised environmental stressors (Guenther et al., 2000; Kanakidou et al., 2005). This problem is even more pronounced in Australia as these parameters are often poorly characterised or based on northern hemispheric data. Müller et al., 2008 show how isoprene is poorly captured by the MEGAN model and analyse the affect of changing the soil moisture parameter, which can reduce the overall bias for Australia. TODO: more on Muller2008 Emmerson et al., 2016 shows that isoprene emissions modelled by MEGAN in southeastern Australia may be 6 times too high. They compare emissions estimates from MEGAN against data from several field campaigns and see overestimated isoprene emissions, as well as underestimated monoterpene emissions.

There are many uncertainties in estimates of emissions in Australia due to missing or extrapolated data. For instance Emissions in MEGAN are based on plant functional types, which can vary heavily even within species. Many plant emissions have not been published, such as those for any Australian acacias. And soil moisture is not well quantified which has a large effect on emissions. TODO: more on K. Emmerson

#### 1.3.2 What do they Do?

VOC emissions result in radical cycling, acid deposition, production of tropospheric ozone, and secondary organic aerosols (SOAs) (Atkinson, 2000; Kanakidou et al., 2005). A regional-model study in Europe (Aksoyoglu et al., 2017) has also shown VOCs impact secondary inorganic aerosol concentrations. These have impacts on climate (through radiative forcing) and air quality, affecting both human health and



**Figure 1.** Ozone production empirical kinetic modeling approach (EKMA) diagram using box model results with NOx levels varying from 0 to 20 ppbv and VOC levels from 0 to 200 ppbv. The mean concentrations of other species and the speciation of  $NO_x$  and VOCs observed during DISCOVER-AQ in Houston in 2013 were used to constrain the box model. This diagram clearly shows the sensitivity of ozone production to  $NO_x$  and VOCs in Houston.

FIGURE 1.1: Ozone production figure copied from Mazzuca et al.,

crop yields (Forster et al., 2007; Avnery et al., 2013; Lelieveld et al., 2015). Understanding the drivers of trends in biogenic VOC emissions (BVOCs) is needed in order to estimate future carbon fluxes, changes in the water cycle, air quality, and other climate responses (Yue, Unger, and Zheng, 2015).

There is a complex relationship between  $NO_X$ , VOCs, and ozone, figure 1.1 shows this relationship over Houston, as modelled in Mazzuca et al., 2016. Recently the relationship has been examined on the intradiel timescale showing that ozone production can be more or less sensitive to VOCs at different hours depending on location various other factors (Mazzuca et al., 2016).

Isoprene is emitted and enters the atmosphere in the gas phase, where it reacts with various chemicals, forming many new chemicals with reactions at various time scales. One common compound which is produced by these reactions is HCHO, which is easier to measure and often used to estimate how much isoprene is being emitted. The estimated yield of HCHO is but one aspect of the many processes going on in this space. There are many reactions which occur and are important to capture in models due to their impacts on air quality and physical properties in the lower atmosphere. The many children processes and products which begin with isoprene oxidation are often called the isoprene (photochemical) cascade **Paulot2012**; Crounse et al., 2012; Wolfe et al., 2016.

#### 1.3.3 The isoprene cascade

Isoprene forms many products with various lifetimes, here I will present an overview of some important mechanisms which affect oxidation capacity, ozone and aerosol production.

The primary first step for atmospheric isoprene is photooxidation, reacting with OH to form isoprene hydroxyperoxy radicals (ISOPOO, or ROO, or ROO) (**Marvin2017**; **Patchen2017**; Wolfe et al., 2016). More generally, photolysis and oxidation of many VOCs initially form alkyl radicals ( $\dot{R}$ ). Alkene (VOCs with double bonded carbon) reactions with ozone lead to organic peroxy radicals (ROO). These go on to form many products and lead to (amongst other things) aerosol, formaldehyde, and ozone formation, depending on various other factors such as sunlight and NO pollution (Atkinson, 2000). There is still uncertainty about which pathways are most important following ISOPOO production: HO<sub>2</sub> reactions predominantly produce hydroxyhydroperoxides (ISOPOOH), NO reactions largely produce methyl vinyl ketone (MVK) and methacrolein (MCR), and RO<sub>2</sub> reactions are also possible Liu et al., 2016b.

The first step in oxidising alkenes (including isoprene) is a replacement by OH of a double bond, as summarised by the equation from PATCHEN et al., 2007:  $R-CH=CH-R'+OH\longrightarrow R-CH(OH)CH-R'$  where R and R' represent hydrocarbons. This OH adduct then reacts with  $O_2$  to produce a hydroxyperoxy radical (ROÖ), which for isoprene can be any of six different isomers (PATCHEN et al., 2007). This is where the isoprene oxidation path splits depending on the  $NO_X$  concentration. Reactions with NO can lead to ozone production in both isoprene and other non-methane organic compounds (NMOCs) and NMVOCs (PATCHEN et al., 2007; Atkinson and Arey, 2003). These reactions are complex and coupled, for example  $NO_2$  concentrations can be increased by NMOC and NO reactions (Atkinson and Arey, 2003).

Reaction with NO<sub>2</sub> forms hydroxynitrate (RONO<sub>2</sub>), also known as peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN). The first generation of organic nitrates produced by isoprene oxidation range from 7% to 12%, shown in laboratory experiments (Paulot et al., 2009a; Mao et al., 2013), A portion of isoprene nitrates are recycled back to NO<sub>X</sub>, so may serve as a reservoir of nitrogen and allow its transport to the boundary layer of remote regions (PATCHEN et al., 2007; Paulot et al., 2009a). PATCHEN et al., 2007 examine this branching step where isoprene either forms ROO or RONO<sub>2</sub>, and for specific conditions they determine the reaction rates for each branch. They find the most frequent pathway is the formation of ROO (99.3%). Although the PAN formation branch is quite minor, it can be very important. PAN can transport NO<sub>X</sub> to otherwise clean regions (Horowitz et al., 1998), and can build up in the winter (Lelieveld et al., 2009). PAN has a relatively long lifetime (against OH, order of 1 day) and is able to transport and release the NO<sub>X</sub> in environments which are quite far from any emissions. This transport can be exacerbated by fast winds and low OH concentrations, which makes PAN an important factor in modelling atmospheric chemistry.

The oxidation products of isoprene through OH adduction (forming ISOPOO) followed by addition of O<sub>2</sub> produces various isomers of alkylperoxyl radicals (organic peroxyl radicals, or RO<sub>2</sub>), which react with HO<sub>2</sub> or NO and produce stable products (often called oxidised VOCs or OVOCs) (**Nguyen2014**). The ISOPOO radicals are eventually destroyed by NO, HO<sub>2</sub> and other RO<sub>2</sub>, with most pathways potentially producing HCHO (Wolfe et al., 2016). Oxidation reactions are important

and quickly stabilise the ratio of NO to  $NO_2$ .  $NO_X$  is removed primarily by conversion to nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) followed by wet or dry deposition (Ayers and Simpson, 2006). There is still large uncertainty around the fate of various  $RO_2$  radicals, which limits understanding of the relative importance of some chemical processes (Crounse et al., 2013).

Some portion of emitted isoprene leads to SOA, potentially through the formation of methacrylic acid epoxide (MAE) formed by decomposition of methacryloylperoxynitrate (MPAN, a second generation product of isoprene oxidation) as shown in smog chambers and field studies in **Lin2013** In the presence of  $NO_X$ , the ISOPOO radicals (RO $\dot{O}$ ) form organic nitrates after reacting with NO. Any organic nitrates which are formed affect levels of both  $HO_X$  (H, OH, peroxy radicals) and  $NO_X$ , acting as a sink (Mao et al., 2013 and references therein).

Isoprene oxidation by OH is less well understood when lower concentrations of NO are present in the atmosphere. Initially isoprene was thought to be a sink for atmospheric oxidants (e.g. Guenther et al., 2000). It was thought that in low NO environments, like those far from anthropogenic pollution and fires, oxidation of isoprene would create ISOPOOH and lead to low concentrations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> Paulot et al., 2009b. In Paulot et al., 2009b, the  $HO_X$  levels are shown to be largely unaffected by isoprene concentrations. They show that ISOPOOH is formed in yields > 70%, and MACR and MVK is formed with yields < 30%. The formation of MACR and MVK produces some  $HO_X$ , although not enough to close the gap. Paulot et al., 2009b goes on to suggest (and provide experimental evidence) that dihydroxyperoxides (IEPOX) are formed from oxidation of the ISOPOOH, which form precursors for SOAs as well as closing the  $HO_X$  concentration gap. They then use GEOS-Chem, modified to include IEPOX formation, to estimate that one third of isoprene peroxy radicals react with HO<sub>2</sub>, and two thirds react with NO. They estimated  $95 \pm 45 \text{ Tg yr}^{-1}$ IEPOX being created in the atmosphere, which (at the time) was not modelled by CTMs. Their work showed another pathway for isoprene based SOA creation, through these IEPOX creation and HO<sub>X</sub> recycling mechanisms. Peeters and Müller, 2010 suggested that the work of Paulot et al., 2009b only partially bridges the gap between clean air HO concentration measurements and models. They suggested four new mechanisms for OH recycling in these pristine conditions. These can be summarised as OH regenerating reactions which occur during photolysis of hydroperoxy-methyl-butenals (HPALDs), and resulting photolabile peroxy-acidaldehydes (PACALDs). These reactions are highly non-linear and subject to large uncertainty, however when compared against several campaigns they were shown to improve one particular models (IMAGES) HO<sub>X</sub> concentrations. In Crounse et al., 2012, MACR products are examined in various conditions and hydroxy recycling is also observed in low NO conditions.

Although understanding of OH production/recycling in these low NO conditions has been improved, many observations of OH are still quite under-predicted in models (Mao et al., 2012). Mao et al., 2012 showed how traditional OH measurements may be overestimated due to VOC oxidation. They looked at measurements in a remote forest in California and found that the instruments were generating OH internally. Nguyen2014 also see this VOC oxidation interference in measurements using a gas chromatographer (GC) with an equipped flame ionisation detector (FID). This lends more credence to the current understanding of VOC oxidation as it closed the gap between measurements and model predictions (Mao et al., 2012).

Peeters and Müller, 2010 showed that HO<sub>2</sub> is produced at near unity yields following isoprene oxidation initiated by HO. TODO: read more Peeters2010

**Nguyen2014** examine various measurement techniques to determine isoprene reactions in non-laboratory conditions. Thier work discussed how large uncertainties persist in isoprene oxidation, which carries through to predictions by atmospheric models. This work discussed how large uncertainties persist in isoprene oxidation, which carries through to predictions by atmospheric models. **Nguyen2014** show preliminary estimates of low-NO yields of MVK and MCR to be  $6\pm3\%$  and  $4\pm2\%$  respectively, consistent with TODO:**Liu2013** but only when cold-trapping methods are employed. These yields each increase (due to interference by OVOCs) to greater than 40% when directly sampled by GC-FID.

During the night isoprene is oxidised by  $NO_3$  radicals, which joins to one of the double bonds and produces organic nitrates in high yield (65% to 85%) (Mao et al., 2013). (todo: read mao2013 para 3 cites) These organic nitrates go on to produce further SOAs, largely due to  $NO_3$  reacting with first generation isoprene oxidation products (Rollins et al., 2009). Rollins et al., 2009 examine SOA production in a large chemical reaction chamber, over 16 hr in the dark and find first generation mass yield ( $\Delta$ SOA mass/ $\Delta$ isoprene mass) to be less than 0.7%, with further oxidation of initial products (isoprene reacting twice with  $NO_3$ ) yielding 14%. This led to an overall mass yield of 2% over the 16 hr experiment.

Even with the recent boom in isoprene analysis, uncertainties remain in the isoprene oxidation mechanisms. Examples (taken from Nguyen2014) include isoprene nitrate yields, which range from 4-15% (Paulot et al., 2009a), 90% disagreements in MAC and MVK yields TODO:(Liu2013), various possible sources for SOA TODO:(Chan2010; Surratt2010; Lin2013), unknown HPALD fates, incomplete O<sub>2</sub> incorporation TODO:(Peeters2009; Crounse et al., 2013), and under-characterized RO<sub>2</sub> lifetime impacts TODO:(Wolfe2012). TODO: get those citations and read abstracts.

#### **Ozononlysis**

Ozononlysis is the splitting of carbon chains by ozone molecules, and is among the primary oxidation pathway for volatile alkenes (Nguyen et al., 2016). Criegee intermediates (carbonyl oxides with two charge centres) are formed when isoprene reacts with  $O_3$ . Nguyen et al., 2016 examine in detail a few of these, with proposed mechanisms for  $C_1$  and  $C_4$  Criegee intermediate reactions. The  $C_1$  stabilised Criegee (CH<sub>2</sub>OO,  $\sim$  61%) is therein proposed to react with water yielding 73% hydroxymethyl hydroperoxide (HMHP), 6% HCHO +  $H_2O_2$ , and formic acid +  $H_2O_3$ , and the same products with yields of 40, 6, and 54% respectively when this Criegee reacts with ( $H_2O_3$ ). TODO: more on Nguyen2016?

#### **SOA**

Gas phase emissions with higher vapour pressures can be oxidised into lower vapour pressure products which will partition between gas and particle phase, often called semi or non-volatile. The aerosol products from these gas phase emissions (or the children thereof) are called SOA (Kanakidou et al., 2005). In the Kanakidou et al., 2005 review of global SOA science, uncertainty in radiative forcing of aerosols is highlighted, and 20-90 % of PM mass in the lower troposphere is OA. Less volatile OA also plays a role, although PM production from this source is complicated and makes up only a small fraction ( $\sim 1\%$ ) of the resulting PM (Kroll and Seinfeld, 2008; Bei, Li, and Molina, 2012). Modelling OA has many uncertainties due to the complexity of SOA formation and various pathways such as aqueous phase

oxidation which can significantly contribute to concentrations. This is further hindered by poor understanding of precursor emissions, and lumping together various compounds, of which only some form SOA (for example ORVOCs in GEIA (back in 2005)). Satellite data requires SOA models to estimate a full vertical profile of aerosols for remote sensing techniques (Kanakidou et al., 2005).

SOA formation from VOCs in atmospheric CTMs is generally imperfect due to the complicated chemistry and diverse nature of atmospheric conditions. Yields of SOA from VOCs are often lumped together and based on empirical laboratory chamber data. VOC oxidation was not feasible  $\sim 12$  years ago (2005), as chamber studies did not extend over a large enough parameter range and the importance of heterogeneous aerosol chemistry on SOA formation was unquantified (Kanakidou et al., 2005).

One of the large uncertainties with OA is the total effect on radiative forcing, 12 years ago it was well understood that most OA cool the atmosphere, with smaller particles having a larger affect due to the size matching the wavelengths of visible light (Kanakidou et al., 2005). Transport and indirect effects complicate matters further, with cloud creation and modification of cloud properties being quite difficult to accurately predict. In the third IPCC report (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): Climate Change: The Scientific Basis 2001), the uncertainty involved if OA forcing was a factor of 3 times the estimated effect. This has since been improved however OA and cloud formation still remains a large uncertainty in more recent IPCC reports (Forster et al., 2007). Figure 1.2 shows the radiative forcing (RF) of various atmospheric constituents, it's clear that OA uncertainty dominates. Figure 1.3 shows the same summary updated in chapter 8 of the fifth report, where the SOA uncertainty remains quite large. It's currently understood that SOA plays an indirect and complex role in cloud properties, with a net cooling effect (IPCC, 2013: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Chapter 7,8)

(TODO: read more of Kanakidou2005) The emissions of precursors to SOA was and is quite uncertain, in Kanakidou et al., 2005 they state that these uncertainties range from a factor of 2 to 5. They highlight emissions and flux measurements as well as implementing satellite data in models as a means of improving the emissions inventories. In 2005, (as of Kanakidou et al., 2005,) the knowledge gaps in isoprene and terpene oxidation processes included precursor gases to SOA, impact of  $NO_X$  on SOA formation, heterogeneous reactions between particles and gaseous compounds, aqueous phase chemistry, and complete aerosol compositions. At this time SOA driven nucleation was under debate, as chamber studies showed that SOA led to new particles but only in the particle free laboratory setting. Nucleation of new particles was suppressed by condensation if any seed aerosol was already present. Observed nucleation outside of laboratories was suggested to have arisen from biogenic SOAs, driven by ozonolysis. Kanakidou et al., 2005 concluded that it is very likely that organics contribute to particle growth and formation rates.

#### 1.3.4 How and where do we measure them?

Kanakidou et al., 2005 summarised the difficulty of chamber experiments used to measure isoprene reactions and the possible unsuitability of chamber study yields in the natural atmosphere. This is due to the complex relationship between NO<sub>X</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>, OH, O<sub>3</sub>, and the formation of aerosols being hard to attribute any single precursor. In **Nguyen2014** many scientists and groups worked together on chamber

### Radiative forcing of climate between 1750 and 2005

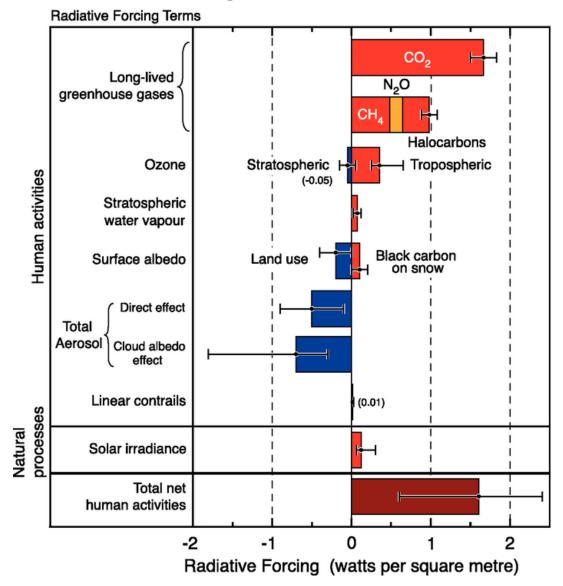
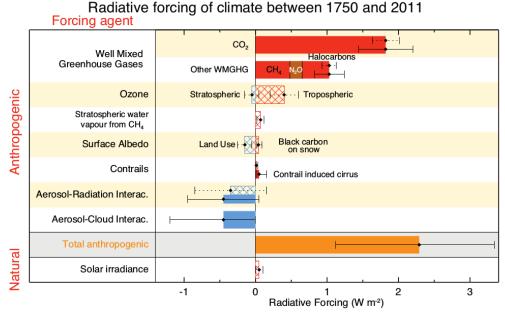


FIGURE 1.2: The overall radiative forcings and uncertainties of several atmospheric constituents This is an image taken from Forster et al., 2007, found at https://www.ipcc.ch/publications\_and\_data/ar4/wg1/en/faq-2-1.html.



### Figure 8.15 | Bar chart for RF (hatched) and ERF (solid) for the period 1750–2011, where the total ERF is derived from Figure 8.16. Uncertainties (5 to 95% confidence range) are given for RF (dotted lines) and ERF (solid lines).

FIGURE 1.3: The overall radiative forcings and uncertainties of several atmospheric constituents This is an image taken from *IPCC*, 2013: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, chapter 8.

measurements, to improve understanding of ambient atmospheric oxidation mechanisms of biogenic hydrocarbons (such as isoprene).

TODO: Brief overview of all the measurement campaigns, pointing to Modelling and Data chapter for more details. There are relatively few measurements of isoprene in the southern hemisphere, including MUMBA(TODO CITE), other campaigns?, and very recently that girl from Macquarie University with an instrument in the daintree rainforest(TODO CITE, DESCRIBE?). For details on the MUMBA campaign see Section ??. An airflight campaign (HIPPO) measuring isoprene was also performed in 2009-2011? TODO: ask Jenny re this one.

A particulate and air quality measurement campaign took place in Sydney using PTR-MS and GC-FID, for details see Section ??.

#### 1.3.5 Emissions estimates

There are two commonly used ways of estimating isoprene emissions, top-down or bottom-up. Bottom-up emission estimates generally model the flora and events which emit isoprene, like Eucalypts, factories, shrubs, etc. They use various properties of the emitters in order to estimate how much isoprene is being produced. Some of these properties include leaf areas, speciated responses to sunlight and temperature, moisture stress, etc (Guenther et al., 1995; Guenther et al., 2006). Understanding how much isoprene is emitted, when and by what, is complicated. Since little data exists with which to verify many of these bottom-up emission inventories, they can be uncertain on a large scale. Emissions inventories such as MEGAN are bottom-up and use models of emissions based on tree types, weather, and other parameters.

Top-down estimates look at how much of a chemical is in the atmosphere and try to work out how much of its major precursors were emitted. This generally takes advantage of longer lived products which may reach a measurable equilibrium in the atmosphere. For isoprene this is done by looking at atmospheric HCHO enhancement, which can be largely attributed to isoprene emissions once transport and other factors are accounted for. Recently Stavrakou et al., 2015 used satellite HCHO measurements to constrain anthropogenic sources of isoprene and found good global agreement with the bottom up estimates, although some regions had sources differ by up to 25-40%. Their study used the RETRO 2000 database for anthropogenic emission aprioris except for Asia in 2008 where REASv2 was used. Since 1997, when GOME first measured HCHO over Asia (Thomas et al., 1998), satellites have been able to provide a total column measurement of HCHO, one of the primary products of isoprene.

It used to be thought that emissions of anthropogenic and biogenic VOCs (AV-OCs, BVOCs respectively) were roughly similar (Müller, 1992, TODO: more cites). Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) is one of the more abundant and potent VOCs, however it is often classified separately and compared against non-methane VOCs (NMVOCs). In the 1990's it became clear that biogenic emissions of VOCs were in fact dominant, although methane emissions are still largely anthropogenic. The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) estimated that we are emitting 360 Mt yr<sup>-1</sup> of methane, compared to biogenic emissions of around 200 Mt yr<sup>-1</sup> (Atkinson, 2000). In 1995 emissions of other VOCs were estimated at 1150 Mt yr<sup>-1</sup> (of carbon) from biogenic sources, and 100 Mt yr<sup>-1</sup> from anthropogenic sources (Guenther et al., 1995; Atkinson, 2000). These estimates were based on the MEGAN. It's remains clear that biogenic VOC (BVOC) emissions are far greater than anthropogenic emissions of VOCs, making up 87% of NMVOC emissions (Kanakidou et al., 2005; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). Non methane BVOC emissions are estimated to be  $\sim 1150~{\rm Tg~C}$  $yr^{-1}$ , of which isoprene (44%) and monoterpenes (11%) are the main single contributors (Guenther et al., 2000; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014).

Guenther et al., 2006 estimated that the Australian outback is among the worlds strongest isoprene emitters with forests in SE Australia having emission factors greater than  $16 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$  (see figure 1.4). Measurement campaigns in SE Australia have since cast doubt on the emission factors used by MEGAN, as the Eucalyptus trees and soil moisture were poorly studied Emmerson et al., 2016. These emissions factor estimates are not well verified and measurements of isoprene (or other BVOC) emissions barely cover Australia either spatially or temporally. However, comprehensive coverage of one high yield product (HCHO) in the atmosphere over Australia exists in the form of satellite measurements.

TODO:MOVE? (Uncertainties in estimates paragraph) Isoprene emissions estimates are still fairly uncertain, as global measurements are difficult and regional emissions can be very different. The global uncertainty of isoprene emission was estimated to be a factor of 2 to 5 (250-750 Tg yr<sup>-1</sup>) (Kanakidou et al., 2005). Improvements over the years have been incremental, and generally localised to regions of particular interest for air quality such as China and the USA TODO: find recent uncertainty estimate improvements examples. The lack of accuracy in BVOC emissions estimates prevents accurate determinations of the sources and distribution of pollutants including ozone and organic aerosols. Most of the tropospheric SOA comes from biogenic precursors, the evidence for this has grown over the last two decades (Guenther et al., 1995; Kanakidou et al., 2005; Guenther et al., 2012). Accuracy in VOC measurements is important: it has been shown that even the diurnal pattern of isoprene emissions has an effect on modelling ground level ozone (Hewitt

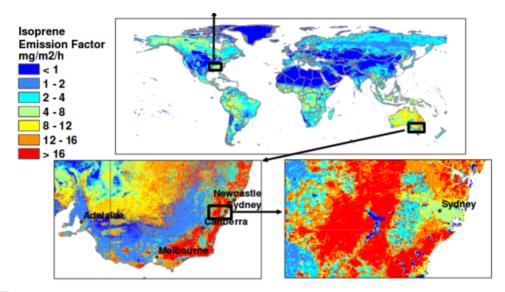


Fig. 2. Global distribution of landscape-average isoprene emission factors (mg isoprene m $^{-2}$  h $^{-1}$ ). Spatial variability at the base resolution ( $\sim$ 1 km) is shown by regional images of the southeastern U.S. and southeastern Australia.

FIGURE 1.4: Part of a figure from Guenther et al., 2006 showing global isoprene emission factors.

et al., 2011; Fan and Zhang, 2004). These uncertainties could explain why models of HCHO over Australia are poor at reproducing satellite measurements (Stavrakou et al., 2009). Over Australia specifically MEGAN has problems involving unpublished plant functional types and their emissions, as well as poorly optimised soil moisture parameterisation (Emmerson et al., 2016). Australia also lacks a clear estimate of emitted monoterpenes. Emmerson et al., 2016 suggest that monoterpenes may be emitted in similar quantites to isoprene, with more measurements required to determine if this is so. Their work suggests that MEGAN estimates of isoprene emissions may be 2-6 times too high, and monoterpene emissions  $\sim$  3 times too low over southeast Australia.

It is important to note that many estimates of isoprene emission are based on a few algorithms which can depend greatly on input parameters (Arneth et al., 2008; Niinemets et al., 2010). Arneth et al., 2008 argue that this monopoly of emissions estimates may be leading us to an incorrect understanding of isoprene chemistry. Yue, Unger, and Zheng, 2015 has shown that this is still a problem by looking at land carbon fluxes and modelling the sensitivity to VOC emissions estimates using two independent models of VOC emission. One model is photosynthesis based and estimates isoprene emissions using electron transfer energies and leaf physiology (Niinemets et al., 1999), while the other (MEGAN) uses the light and canopy temperature ((Arneth2007; Guenther et al., 1995) TODO: Read Arneth et al., 2007; Unger et al., 2013). Both are sensitive to light and temperature parameterisations.

Isoprene is hard to measure directly due to its short lifetime and weak spectral absorption, instead formaldehyde is often used as a proxy (Millet et al., 2006; Fu et al., 2007; Dufour et al., 2009; Marais et al., 2012; Bauwens et al., 2013; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014; Bauwens et al., 2016). This leads to another method of isoprene emissions estimation, termed top-down (as opposed to bottom-up estimates like MEGAN).

### 1.4 Formaldehyde (HCHO)

HCHO, aka methanal, methyl aldehyde, or methylene oxide, is of the aldehyde family. HCHO is an OVOC which is toxic, allergenic, and a potential carcinogen. It is dangerous at low levels, with WHO guidelines for prolonged exposure at 80 ppb. HCHO is used as an adhesive in plywood, carpeting, and in the creation of paints and wallpapers. Emissions in enclosed spaces can build up to dangerous levels, especially if new furnishings are installed (Davenport et al., 2015). At global scales HCHO in furniture is less important, as concentrations are driven by photochemical reactions with methane and other VOCs.

In the remote troposphere HCHO production is dominated by methane oxidation, while in the continental boundary layer (CBL) production is largely due to NMVOCs (Abbot, 2003; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). This suggests that HCHO enhancement over continents can be used to determine NMVOC emissions. In the CBL, HCHO enhancement is generally driven by short lived (< 1 hr) precursors (such as isoprene and other VOCs). HCHO itself has a lifetime of a few hours (Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014).

#### 1.4.1 How HCHO is measured

There are a few ways to measure HCHO, including Fourier Transform Infra-Red Spectrometry (FTIR) and Differential Optical Absorption Spectroscopy (DOAS). The DOAS technique takes advantage of the optically thin nature of HCHO in order to linearise the radiance differential through air masses with and without HCHO, using the Beer-Lambert intensity law. This method works for both in the home HCHO detection and global measurements from in-situ and remote sensing instruments (Guenther et al., 1995; Gonzalez Abad et al., 2015; Davenport et al., 2015). As a trace gas HCHO interferes with light over a few wavelength bands, which allows instruments to detect concentrations between a known light source and a detector. Figure 1.5 shows the interference spectrum of HCHO as well as a typical band used to examine interference in the DOAS technique. One difficulty is that this interference is relatively small (HCHO is optically thin) and other compounds absorb light at similar wavelengths (Davenport et al., 2015). FTIR measurements can have a range of uncertainties, including systematic and random measurement errors and uncertain apriori shape factors and water profiles (eg: Franco et al., 2015). Multiple axis DOAS (MAX-DOAS) uses DOAS over several open path directions and also examines the infra-red light interference. In Franco et al., 2015, an FTIR spectrometer at Jungfraujoch is compared against both MAX-DOAS and satellite data, with two CTMs; GEOS-Chem and IMAGES v2 used to compare total columns and vertical resolution of each instrument. Generally satellites use a DOAS based technique, with chemical transport and radiative transfer models used to transform the non-vertical light path interference into vertical column amounts.

MAX-DOAS is a remote sensing technique which uses several DOAS measurements over different viewing paths. In these retrievals, the measurements of light absorption are performed over several elevations in order to add some vertical resolution to the measurement of trace gas concentrations. An example of this is shown in figure 1.6, which was taken from Lee et al., 2015. Recently MAX-DOAS has been used to examine HCHO profiles in the clean free troposphere (Franco et al., 2015; Schreier et al., 2016) as well as in polluted city air (Lee et al., 2015). Depending on orography and atmospheric composition (ie. the influence of interfering chemicals), MAX-DOAS can be used to split the tropospheric column into two partial columns;

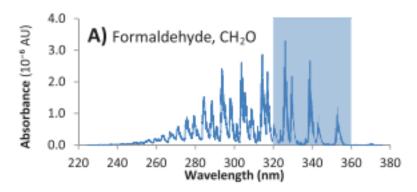


FIGURE 1.5: HCHO spectrum, with a typical band of wavelengths used for DOAS path measurements. This is a portion of an image from Davenport et al., 2015.

giving a small amount of vertical resolution to HCHO measurements (Franco et al., 2015; Lee et al., 2015, eg.).

DOAS methods are based on light interference and absorption through air masses. Other types of measurement involve directly measuring the air, and determining chemical compounds through their physical properties. A proton transfer reaction mass spectrometer (PTR-MS) can be used to determine gas phase evolution of terpene oxidation products (**Lee2006a**; **Nguyen2014**; Wolfe et al., **2016**, eg.). This is done through analysis of mass to charge ratios (m/z) of ionised air masses which are then identified as chemical compounds. **Nguyen2014** use and compare several instruments (including one which is PTR-MS based) in the analysis of isoprene and monoterpene products. A Gas Chromatography mass spectrometer (GC-MS) is also able to identify isoprene, monoterpenes, and their products **Nguyen2014** 

Other measurement techniques include chromatographic and fluorimetric methods, both of which differ widely from each other and the spectroscopic methods (Hak et al., 2005). Hak et al., 2005 examine a single air mass with 8 instruments using the four techniques (MAX-DOAS, FTIR, chromatographic, and flourimetric), and show that reasonable agreements can be achieved. Generally the measurements were somewhat close, the five Hantzsch instruments agreeing to within 11% (after removing two potentially faulty measurements), although different calibration standards were used. Titration for the different calibration solutions could not be resolved, which may account for absolute offsets up to 30%. These differences and non-uniformities between measurements (even among identical instruments) are part of the reason HCHO does not have a consistent network for global measurements like those for GHGs or Ozone (Fortems-Cheiney et al., 2012).

#### 1.4.2 Sources and sinks

In the atmosphere HCHO is primarily produced through the oxidation of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) by the hydroxyl radical (OH). CH<sub>4</sub> concentrations are thought to be well constrained in models, with the ACCMIP comparison showing only  $\sim 3\%$  inter-quartile range (Young et al., 2013). Within the continental boundary layer, the major source of HCHO enhancement is VOC emissions reacting with OH radicals in the presence of NO<sub>X</sub> (Wagner, 2002; Millet et al., 2006; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). There is a complex relationship between VOCs, HO<sub>X</sub>, and NO<sub>X</sub>, and with higher levels of NO<sub>X</sub> the speed that VOCs are converted into HCHO increases, as does the HCHO concentration (Wolfe et al., 2016). Isoprene is the main VOC precursor of HCHO in



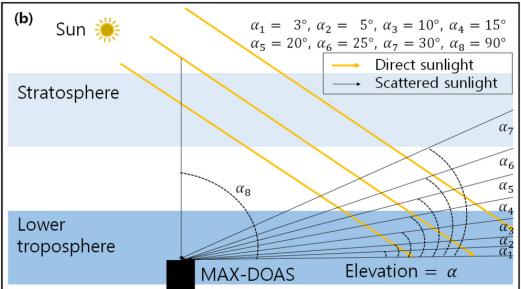


FIGURE 1.6: Image from Lee et al., 2015.

the continental boundary layer, except near fires or anthropogenic sources of HCHO and precursors (Guenther et al., 1995; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014; Wolfe et al., 2016).

Biomass burning (BB) can be a source of HCHO, and various other pollutants, precursors, and aerosols (Andreae2001; Guenther et al., 1995). Additionally HCHO is emitted into the atmosphere directly through fossil fuel combustion, natural gas flaring, ethanol refining, and agricultural activity (Wolfe et al., 2016). Background levels of HCHO are maintained by methane oxidation, while enhancements to regional and continental HCHO are largely driven by isoprene emissions (Guenther et al., 1995; Palmer, 2003; Shim et al., 2005; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). Atkinson, 2000 summarised the background formation of HCHO with the following reaction:

$$OH + CH_4(+h\nu) + 2NO + 2O_2 \rightarrow OH + HCHO + H_2O + 2O_3$$

which shows that photolysis and oxidation of methane forms HCHO and ozone in a process that regenerates the OH radicals.

Other terpenoids (monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes, etc.) can also produce HCHO, although generally to a lesser extent than isoprene, methane and biomass burning (Guenther et al., 2012). Many of the HCHO yields from terpenoids are estimated through chamber studies which examine the products molecular mass and charge after mixing the compound of choice into a known volume of air (Nguyen2014). These conditions generally don't match those of the real world, where ambient air will have a cocktail of these compounds as well as various reactants. Nguyen2014 state that one of their goals is to recreate ambient atmosphere in their chamber studies with more accuracy, in order to improve interpretations and allow more accurate model parameters. An important factor in determining the yield of HCHO and other products from BVOCs is the local concentration of  $NO_X$ . Travis et al., 2016 show how modelled surface ozone is overestimated due to high estimates of  $NO_X$  emissions, which affect oxidative capacity and VOC reactions.

HCHO has two major sinks, one being reactions with OH (oxidation), the other being photolysis: the process of being broken apart by photons (CRUTZEN, LAWRENCE, and PÖSCHL, 1999; Wagner, 2002; Levy, 1972; Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). These reactions lead to a daytime lifetime of a few hours (Atkinson, 2000; Millet et al., 2006). Both these loss processes (photolysis, oxidation) form CO and hydroperoxyl radicals (HO<sub>2</sub>), and have global significance to radiative forcing and oxidative capacity (Franco et al., 2015). The other notable sinks are wet and dry deposition, although these are not as significant (Atkinson, 2000) (TODO: add more cites here).

In the past, HCHO levels were underestimated by models, often with large discrepancies, due to the poor understanding of methyl peroxy radical (CH<sub>3</sub>OO) chemistry (Wagner, 2002). Nowadays HCHO concentrations are better understood, however precursor emissions are one of the main unknowns (Marvin2017; Emmerson et al., 2016, eg.). Marvin2017 found that discrepancies in modelled HCHO concentrations are primarily due to second and later generation isoprene oxidation chemistry.

Formaldehyde formed in the troposphere is mostly due to VOC (roughly one third each: methane, isoprene, others) oxidation. We can model this oxidation process in order to work out how much VOC is present based on the total HCHO. This requires among other things an idea of which VOCs are present and their yields of HCHO. The technique of determining isoprene emissions from satellite detected HCHO is called satellite inversion.

#### 1.4.3 Satellite inversion

Satellites recording reflected solar spectra use Differential Optical Absorption Spectroscopy (DOAS) to measure various trace gases in the atmosphere, including formaldehyde. Formaldehyde levels in the continental boundary layer are generally dominated by chemical formation due to VOC (largely isoprene) emissions (Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). While satellite measurements can only be used during daytime hours, HCHO lifetimes are sufficiently short that any night-time chemistry will not affect midday observations (Wolfe et al., 2016). Satellites can be used to measure the seasonal and interannual variability of HCHO over Australia. These records can be compared with modeled estimates of HCHO and used as a proxy to estimate isoprene emissions. This has been done in North America (Palmer, 2003; Millet et al., 2006), South America, Africa, China, Europe (Dufour et al., 2009), and recently globally (Fortems-Cheiney et al., 2012; Bauwens et al., 2016). Often these works use two forms of measurement such as satellite and aircraft data combined for validation (Marais et al., 2014). There is less information available from satellite measurements at higher latitudes due to increased errors (De Smedt et al., 2015).

Using HCHO to determine emissions of isoprene was initially performed by Palmer et al., 2001; Palmer, 2003, who used in-situ summertime HCHO measurements over North America as model validation. Isoprene emissions fluxes were derived using the Global Ozone Monitoring Experiment (GOME) satellite instrument. Palmer's method improved biogenic isoprene emissions estimates (compared with in-situ measurements) over two available inventories: the U.S. EPA Biogenic Emissions Inventory System (BEIS2) and the Global Emissions Inventory Activity (GEIA). This showed an inversion technique which could be used to improve large scale emissions estimates without further expensive measurement campaigns.

Initially studies assumed a simple linear steady-state relationship between HCHO and it's precursors (Palmer, 2003; Palmer et al., 2006; Millet et al., 2006). This allowed a simple calculation of isoprene using the measured HCHO, with estimated reaction rates and yields. The methodology for calculating VOCs from HCHO is laid out in Palmer, 2003, and takes into account the expected lifetime and reaction rates of the precursor VOCs and HCHO. Assuming HCHO is produced quickly from short-lived intermediates, and the column is at steady state:

$$VOC_i \stackrel{k_i}{\rightarrow} Y_i HCHO$$

Where  $Y_i$  is HCHO yield per C atom (a measure of how much HCHO will form per gram of C from a VOC within a system), and  $k_i$  is the reaction rate. Then assuming a steady state of atmospheric HCHO ( $\Omega$  molecules  $cm^{-2}$ ) produced by oxidation of VOCs (VOC<sub>i</sub>) and no horizontal transport:

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{k_{HCHO}} \sum_{i} Y_i E_i$$

Where i indexes a chemical species,  $k_{HCHO}$  is the HCHO loss rate due to OH and photolysis,  $Y_i$  is the molar HCHO yield from oxidation of i, and  $E_i$  is emission fluxes ( C atoms  $cm^{-2}s^{-1}$ ).

Estimates of  $Y_i$  can be attained from a model as shown in Millet et al., 2006. This involves a reduced major axis (RMA) correlation calculation between modelled HCHO and isoprene columns, multiplied by their loss rates (to photolysis and oxidation) (as a normalising factor). In high NOx environments where HCHO has a lifetime on the order of 30 minutes, it can be used to map isoprene emissions with

spatial resolution from 10-100 kms. Horizontal transport 'smears' the HCHO signal so that source location would need to be calculated using windspeeds and loss rates (Palmer et al., 2001; Palmer, 2003). Smearing is explicitly handled in these studies due to the importance of transport and  $NO_X$  on forming robust and accurate estimates.

Another method of correcting isoprene emissions using observed HCHO total column involves a Bayesian inversion. Shim et al., 2005 work with GOME HCHO observations and GEOS-Chem, looking at areas with high signal to noise ratio (higher HCHO concentrations). They show that the model underestimates isoprene emissions and HCHO concentrations by 14-46%, with the corrected VOC emissions reducing the model biases to 3-25%.

The Bayesian inversion is also used in Curci et al., 2010, where a regional CTM (CHIMERE) simulates HCHO, which is compared against OMI observed HCHO and shown to be regionally biased. This bias is expected to be caused by errors in MEGANs isoprene emissions estimations. The CHIMERE model is used to derive yields of HCHO from the various local VOCs and these are then used in estimating local emissions. The model is run initially with emissions of BVOCs and reactive anthropogenic VOCs (RAVOCs) turned off in order to work out the background (b) values of these compounds. The Bayesian inversion is used to correct regionally biased biogenic isoprene emissions by optimising these parameters in order to simulate HCHO closest to the observed HCHO levels. Curci et al., 2010 uses CHIMERE as the forward model to determine the relationship between HCHO (y), isorene and reactive anthropogenic VOCs (x), using

$$y = \mathbf{K}x + b + \epsilon \tag{1.3}$$

where  $\epsilon$  are the (assumed) independent errors in measurements. K is the Jacobian matrix determined from CHIMERE representing the sensitivity of y to the state variable x. This K matrix is used in conjunction with error covariance in x to determine the Maximum A Posteriori (MAP) solution to calculate the optimal estimate of x ( $\hat{x}$ ).

TODO: Read through this list of sources on the hcho to isop process: taken from Wolfe2015 Such techniques have informed isoprene emission inventories in North America (Abbot et al., 2003; Millet et al., 2008 (Palmer, 2003; Millet et al., 2006; Palmer et al., 2006)), South America ((Barkley et al., 2013), 2008), Europe (Curci et al., 2010; Dufour et al., 2009), Africa (Marais et al., 2012), Asia (Fu et al., 2007; Stavrakou et al., 2014), and globally (Fortems-Cheiney et al., 2012; (Shim et al., 2005); Stavrakou et al., 2009).

More recently, full inversions that better account for transport, source attribution, and chemical schemes have been implemented (Fortems-Cheiney et al., 2012). TODO: full description of this better inversion technique going through FortemsCheiney2012.

Validation is important due to the various uncertainties in the satellite remote sensing process, with apriori assumptions having the greatest effect on structural uncertainty between measurements techniques Lorente et al., 2017. Zhu et al., 2016 use SEAC<sup>4</sup>RS aircraft HCHO measurements over the southeastern US as model validation, and show a bias in the assumed OMI shape factor that leads to a bias between satellite and SEAC<sup>4</sup>RS measurements. Marais et al., 2014 compare OMI based isoprene emission estimates against relaxed eddy accumulation measurements from African field campaigns, as well as MEGAN and GEOS-5 inventories. Dufour et al., 2009 use HCHO from SCIAMACHY, and examine Europe using CHIMERE as the

chemical model. In their work they show that satellite measurements can reduce source emission uncertainty by a factor of two, where emissions are relatively large.

Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014 reviews remote sensing of BVOCs, which are on the rise, examining the last 20 years of data and analysis of the satellite products. Their review encompasses the latest reports up to 2014 The modelled isoprene and BVOC emissions from MEGAN (Guenther et al., 2000) of 500 and 1150 Tga<sup>-1</sup> respectively are still the global go to estimates. Their review reinforces the message that NMVOCs affect the oxidative capacity of the atmosphere and are largely driven by and sensitive to vegetation. The tropospheric affects from NMVOCs on the hydroxyl radical (OH), ozone ( $O_3$ ), SOAs, and methane longevity, all interconnect to form a very complex system which still suffers from relatively large uncertainties in both measurement and chemistry mechanisms. One focus of Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014 is HCHO, which is the dominant product of most BVOCs which is measurable by remote sensing. The main datasets of HCHO are from four satellite instruments: GOME on ERS-2, SCIAMACHY on ENVI-SAT, OMI on EOS AURA, and GOME2 on MetOp-A. These satellites have slightly different spectral and spatial resolutions, as well as using varied processes to estimate HCHO from detected radiances. This can lead to different estimates between instruments or methodologies as described in Lorent2017 which means validation and comparison is more important when using these remotely sensed data.

Total HCHO is measured by satellite over the entire world, however the technique is not perfect and suffers from uncertainties and interferences. Satellite based chemical concentrations rely on ground-based measurements and modelled data for validation. They provide various readings with daily global coverage which is not otherwise feasable.

#### 1.4.4 Satellite HCHO detection

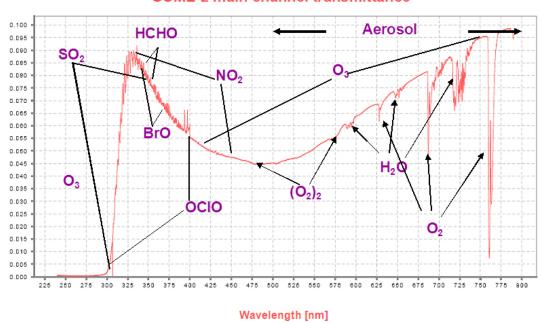
TODO: Refactor this section so it's readable

Several satellites provide long term trace gas observations with near complete global coverage, including the ERS-2 launched in April 1995 which houses the GOME ultraviolet and visible (UV-Vis) spectrometer, the AURA launched in July 2004 which houses the OMI UV-Vis spectrometer, the MetOp-A and B launched in October 2006 and September 2012 respectively both housing a GOME-2 UV-Vis spectrometer. These satellites are on Low Earth Orbit (LEO) trajectories and overpass any area up to once per day. Satellites can use DOAS techniques with radiative transfer calculations on solar radiation absorption spectra to measure column HCHO . An example of a spectrum retrieved from the GOME-2 instrument is given in figure 1.7. Measurements done using DOAS often apply a forward radiative transfer model (RTM) such as LIDORT in order to determine a trace gas's radiative properties at various altitudes.

Satellites record near nadir (vertical) reflected spectra between around 250-700 nm split into spectral components at around 0.3 nm in order to calculate trace gases including O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, and HCHO (eg: Leue et al., 2001). Several public data servers are available which include products from satellites, including NASAs Earthdata portal (https://earthdata.nasa.gov/) and the Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy (IASB-BIRA) Aeronomie site (http://h2co.aeronomie.be/).

Instruments including MODIS on board the AQUA and TERRA satellites are able to determine aerosol optical depth (AOD), a measure of atmospheric scatter and absorbance. An AOD of under 0.05 indicates a clear sky, while values of 1 or greater indicate increasingly hazy conditions. This is an important atmospheric property

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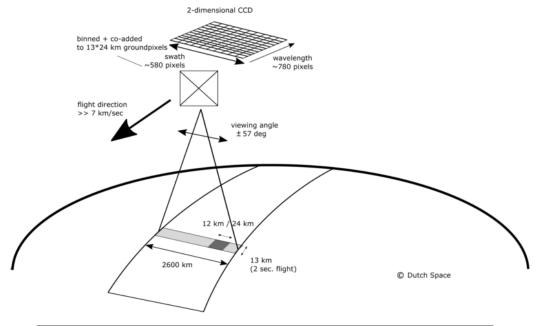
#### **GOME-2** main channel transmittance

FIGURE 1.7: An example spectrum showing interferences used for species concentration measurements by GOME-2. Image by EUMET-SAT and ESA (EUMETSAT, 2015.

allowing us to track dust storms and pollution events as well as determine where measurements from other instruments may be compromised by high interference. Satellite measured AOD requires validation by more accurate ground based instruments like those of AERONET which uses more than 200 sun photometers scattered globally.

#### **OMI** measurements

The OMI instrument on board AURA has been active since July 2005, it records spectra from 264-504 nm using an array of 60 detectors with mid-resolution (0.4-0.6 nm). This band of wavelengths allows measurments of trace gases including O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, HCHO, and various other quantities like surface UV radiation. Recently Schenkeveld et al., 2017 analysed the performance over time of the instrument and found irradiance degradation of 3-8%, changed radiances of 1-2%, and a stable wavelength calibration within 0.005-0.020 nm. They also provide a very nice summary of the OMI instrument copied here in Fig. ??, as it shows the instruments spectral, temporal, and spatial resolutions. These changes are measured excluding the row anomaly (RA) effect, which is relatively stable since 2011, although it is still growing and remains the most serious concern. An analysis of the row anomaly by Huang et al., 2017 state that OMI ozone columns remain suitable for scientific use, with recommendation for further evaluation. And analysis of OMI output by Schenkeveld et al., 2017 concludes that data is still of high quality and will deliver useful information for 5-10 more years, with radiances only changing by 1-2% outside of RA impacted areas. The RA began in June 2007, with some cross-track rows seemingly blocked. The most likely cause is some instrument insulation partially obscuring the radiance port (Schenkeveld et al., 2017).



Channel	Wavelength range	Spectral resolution	Spectral sampling	Ground pixel size
UV1	264-311 nm	0.63  nm = 1.9  px	$0.33  \text{nm}  \text{px}^{-1}$	$13 \times 48 \mathrm{km}$
UV2	307-383 nm	0.42  nm = 3.0  px	$0.14{\rm nm}{\rm px}^{-1}$	$13 \times 24 \mathrm{km}$
VIS	349–504 nm	0.63  nm = 3.0  px	$0.21  \text{nm}  \text{px}^{-1}$	$13 \times 24 \mathrm{km}$

Soon even more HCHO data will be available in the form of geostationary satellite measurements (Kwon et al., 2017). Kwon et al., 2017 examine simulated geostationary measurements against GEOS-Chem column simulations to determine the most important instrument sensitivities. Geostationary satellites can provide temporally rich measurements over an area, as they are not sweeping around the earth but fixed relative to one latitude and longitude.

#### **DOAS**

TODO: some of this is repeated in isoprene chapter satellite section.

The DOAS technique uses solar radiation absorption spectra to measure trace gases through paths of light. The RTM used in DOAS techniques is based on Beer's law relating the attenuation of light to the properties of the medium it travels through. Beer's law states that  $T=I/I_0=e^{-\tau}$  with T being transmittance,  $\tau$  being optical depth, and I, I<sub>0</sub> being radiant flux received at instrument and emitted at source respectively. From  $\tau_i=\int \rho_i\beta_i ds$  we get:

$$I = I_0 \exp\left(\Sigma_i \int \rho_i \beta_i ds\right)$$

Where i represents a chemical species index,  $\rho$  is a species density(molecules per cm<sup>3</sup>),  $\beta$  is the scattering and absorption cross section area (cm<sup>2</sup>), and the integral over ds represents integration over the path from light source to instrument. The forward RTM used for satellite data products also involves functions representing extinction from Mie and Rayleigh scattering, and the efficiency of these on intensities

from the trace gas under inspection, as well as accounting for various atmospheric parameters which may or may not be estimated (e.g. albedo).

#### **AMF**

To convert the trace gas profile from a reflected solar radiance column (slanted along the light path) into a purely vertical column requires calculations of an air mass factor (AMF). In satellite data, the AMF is typically a scalar value for each horizontal grid point which will equal the ratio of the total vertical column density to the total slant column density. This value should also account for instrument sensitivities to various wavelengths at various altitudes, and is unique for each trace gas under consideration.

An AMF characterises measurement sensitivity to a trace gas at various altitudes Palmer et al., 2001, e.g. Lorente et al., 2017 show that AMF calculations can be the largest source of unertainty in satellite measurements. Another way of describing AMFs are as measures of how radiance at the top of the atmosphere (TOA) changes with trace gas optical depths at specific altitudes (Lorente et al., 2017). Calculation of the AMF is important as it is multiplied against the estimated slant columns in order to give vertical column amounts.

Related to the AMF is the averaging kernal (AK), which is used to handle instrument measurements which are sensitive to concentrations at different altitudes in the atmosphere. DOAS methods can be heavily influenced by the initial estimates of a trace gas profile (the apriori) which is often produced by modelling, so when comparing models of these trace gases to satellite measurements extra care needs to be taken to avoid introducing bias from differing apriori assumptions. One way to remove these apriori influences is through the satellites AK (or by using AMFs), which takes into account the vertical profile of the modelled trace gas and instrument sensitivity to the trace gas (Eskes and Boersma, 2003; Palmer et al., 2001). Lamsal et al., 2014 recommends that when comparing satellite data to models, the AMF should first be recalculated using the model as an apriori. This is in order to remove any apriori bias between model and satellite columns.

#### Satellite uncertainties

Satellite measurements of HCHO are relatively uncertain, however this can be improved by averaging over larger grid boxes or longer time scales. An example of this can be seen in Dufour et al., 2009, where monthly averaging is used to decrease the measurements uncertainty. They examine HCHO in Europe, which is low; near the detection limit of satellite measurements. Taking monthly averages allows enough certainty that useful inversions can be determined to estimate the source emissions of HCHO. The finer nadir resolution of OMI (13 by 24 km²) compared to other satellites reduces cloud influence (Millet et al., 2006; Millet et al., 2008). Although the uncertainty in each pixel is  $\sim 2\times 10^{16}$ , which is  $5\times$  higher than GOME, there are  $\sim 100-200\times$  as many measurements due to the smaller footprint and better temporal resolution of OMI, which allows a greater reduction of uncertainty with averaging (Instrument, 2002; Millet et al., 2008).

In cloudy, hazy or polluted areas measurements are more difficult to analyse (e.g. Palmer, 2003; Marais et al., 2014). Recent work by Vasilkov et al., 2017 showed that updating how the surface reflectivity is incorporated into satellite measurements can change the retrievals by 50 % in polluted areas.

In satellite HCHO products, concentrations over the remote pacific ocean are sometimes used to analyse faulty instrument readings. This is due to the expected invariance of HCHO over this region. For instance GOME (an instrument which measures trace gases on board the ERS-2) corrects for an instrument artifact using modelled HCHO over the remote pacific (Shim2015). OMI HCHO products use a similar technique to account for sensor plate drift and changing bromine sensitivity (Gonzalez Abad et al., 2015)

For many places the tropospheric column HCHO measured by satellite is biased low, Zhu et al., 2016 examine six available datasets and show a bias of 20 - 51% over south east USA when compared against a campaign of aircraft observations (SEAC<sup>4</sup>RS). De Smedt et al., 2015 also found a low bias from 20 - 40% when comparing OMI and GOME2 observations against ground based vertical profiles, and Barkley et al., 2013 determine OMI to be 37% low compared with aircraft measurements over Guyana. These bias can be corrected by improving the assumed apriori HCHO profiles which are used to calculate the AMFs of the satellite columns. Millet et al., 2006 examine OMI HCHO columns over North America and determine overall uncertainty to be 40%, with most of this coming from cloud interference. Millet et al., 2008 shows that there also exists some latitude based bias, as well as a systematic offset between the OMI and GOME instruments. This does not appear to be due to the different overpass times of the two instruments.

Uncertainty in the OMI satellite instrument is calculated by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO) group using the uncertainty in backscattered radiation retrievals (Gonzalez Abad et al., 2015; Abad et al., 2016). Another method of calculating the uncertainty is used by the Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy (BIRA) group, who determine uncertainty from the standard deviation of HCHO over the remote pacific ocean (De Smedt et al., 2012; De Smedt et al., 2015).

A full analysis of the AMF uncertainty in OMI measurements, as well as the structural uncertainty (between different systems of calculations applied to the same data) is performed by Lorente et al., 2017. They determine the structural uncertainty using ensemble techniques on seven AMF calculation approaches used by different retrieval groups. They show that in scenarios where the gas is enhanced in the lower troposphere, AMF calculation is the largest uncertainty in satellite measurements. In polluted environments the structural uncertainty is estimated at 42 %, or 31 % over unpolluted environments. The importance of apriori and ancilliary data (such as surface albedo and cloud top height) is also shown, as it sharply affects the structural uncertainty.

GOME suffers from similar uncertainties to OMI, as the same general method of DOAS remote measurements are performed. The uncertainty from slant column fitting has been calculated for GOME to be  $4\times10^{15}$  molecules cm $^{-2}$  (Chance et al., 2000; Millet et al., 2006). The conversion factor for slant to vertical columns (AMF) calculation also suffers from errors; primarily from surface albedo, HCHO vertical profile apriori, aerosol, and cloud influence (Millet et al., 2006). AMF uncertainties for GOME are calculated to be 1 to  $1.3\times10^{15}$  molecules cm $^{-2}$  by Shim et al., 2005.

#### 1.4.5 Glyoxal TODO: move somewhere fitting?

Another chemical retrievable from satellite observation is Glyoxal, which can be used to further determine what sort of precursors to HCHO are being emitted (Miller2014; Miller et al., 2016). TODO: go through 2014 paper and see if it's easy to retrieve, then email Dr. Chris Miller.

Glyoxyl (CHOCHO) is important to us as it shares many properties with HCHO, and may provide additional information in determining isoprene emissions. Glyoxyl is another product of VOC oxidation in the atmosphere, with isoprene being the main source globally. Under high  $NO_X$  conditions, glyoxyl forms rapidly, similarly to HCHO. However, glyoxyl also forms in low  $NO_X$  environments both slowly (through isoprene epoxydiols), and rapidly (through di-hydroperoxide dicarbonyl compound photolysation (Crounse et al., 2013). This process is similar to the proposed mechanisms for hydroperoxyaldehydes by Jozef et al., 2014 and carbonyl nitrates (Müller, Peeters, and Stavrakou, 2014).

HCHO has been used to estimate isoprene emissions (some examples in Section 1.4.3) but many uncertainties exist. One of these uncertainties is the yield of HCHO from isoprene, especially in low  $NO_X$  environments. Glyoxyl could prove complementary to HCHO in constraining isoprene emissions (TODO: Read and cite Vrekoussis2009,2010, Chan Miller 2014, Alvarado 2014) (Miller et al., 2016). Recently Miller et al., 2016 updated GEOS-Chem to include the prompt formation of glyoxyl and compared this with satellite and airplane measurements over the USA. Glyoxyl is formed by isoprene oxidation rapidly in low  $NO_X$  conditions, unlike HCHO. With coming geostationary satellites, which provide greater time resolved measurements of HCHO and CHOCHO, this mechanism could be used to clearly show when low  $NO_X$  isoprene chemistry is being undertaken (Miller et al., 2016).

#### 1.5 Models

#### 1.5.1 How can models help

Models can fill the gaps (both spatial and temporal) in measurement records, and are used to predict/avoid/mitigate hazardous scenarios. They are used ideally to steer us away from unsustainable pollution and help complete our understanding of the world from small to large scales. They can be used to increase measurement accuracy (for instance in satellite measurements) and determine where we lack information, while also checking the performance of new instruments. Precisely representing various chemicals and reactions in the atmosphere allows efficient mitigation of pollution, since we can compare scenarios against one another. Currently, improved isoprene understanding is critical for effective air quality measuring (Marvin2017).

Chemical Transport Models (CTMs) simulate production, loss, and transport of chemical species. This is generally calculated using one or both of the Eulerian (box) or Lagrangian (puff) frames of reference. CTMs normally solve the continuity equations simultaneously with chemical production and loss for chemicals under inspection. The continuity equations describe transport of a conserved quantity such as mass, which, solved together with production and loss of a chemical can provide detailed simulations of natural processes. Models provide a simulation of chemical densities and transport over time as a model runs. The general continuity equation links a quantity of a substance (q) to the field in which it flows and can be described by the formula:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot j = \sigma$$

where  $\rho$  is density of q in the field, t is time,  $\nabla$  is divergence, j is the flux (q per unit area per unit time entering or leaving the field), and  $\sigma$  is the generation or loss of q per unit volume per unit time.

1.5. Models 31

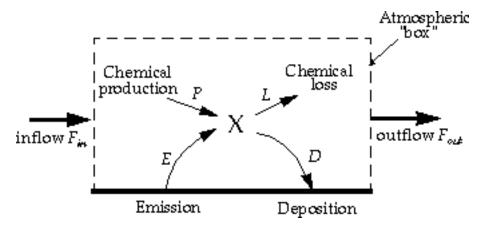


FIGURE 1.8: Standard box model parameters, image taken from Jacob, 1999.

The type of model best suited to modelling the entire earth uses the Eulerian frame of reference, where the atmosphere is broken up into 3-D boxes with densities and transport calculated and stored for sequential steps in time at each location. The mass balance equation must be satisfied in any realistic long term box model and is as follows:

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = \sum sources - \sum sinks$$

$$= F_{in} + E + P - F_{out} - L - D$$

where m is mass of a chemical, E and D are emission and deposition, P and L are production and loss, and F is chemical transport in and out, as shown in figure 1.8. Many chemical species interact with each other through production and loss. Any large chemical model will solve this mass balance equation over highly coupled arrays of partial differential equations which can be complex and time consuming.

In many CTMs the isoprene emissions are calculated seperately using MEGAN, and then used as boundary conditions (EG: Guenther et al., 2006). This can speed up calculations as the transport and concentrations can be simulated in various conditions without recalculating the emissions. Trace gases with short lifetimes and complex chemistry such as isoprene are often hard to measure which makes verifying model estimates difficult. Contemporary models generally use mathematical differential solving tools of various complexity to solve chemical equations and reaction rates (often called chemical mechanisms) in order to predict an environments evolution over time. Different solvers may be slower or faster and more suited to particular situations based on the stability of the equations and systems involved, and chemical mechanisms may vary in how many reactions and chemicals are listed and grouped together. For example: Since  $[O] \ll [O_3]$  the chemical family  $O_X$  (  $O_X \equiv O + O_3$ ) can be used to simplify chemistry simulations and approximate  $O_3$ concentrations (BrasseurJacob2017). Zhang et al., 2012 examine the outputs from a regional model (WRF/Chem) using three different chemical mechanisms, and they show that particulate matter prediction is sensitive to the choice of chemical mechanism.

#### 1.5.2 Relevant model frameworks

Atmospheric chemistry models (ACMs) require various inputs and can be sensitive to ozone and oxidative parameterisations. TODO: read more Christian 2017, TODO: put some more generic ACM info here.

#### Box models

A box model involves modelling chemistry in a singular set of conditions without transport or any spatial gradients. One box model used in this thesis is called CAABA/MECCA, and is described here as an example.

CAABA (Chemistry As A Boxmodel Application) estimates the chemical concentrations accounting for J-values (JVAL), simplified and parameterised photolysis (SAPPHO) and simplified emission and depositions (SEMIDEP). CAABA runs in a single scenario (or box) with given emissions, depositions, and initial concentrations, allowing the examination of chemistry in a very specific environment to be modelled with high temporal resolution. This has been used with an atmospheric chemistry model MECCA (Module Efficiently Calculating the Chemistry of the Atmosphere) which implements tropospheric and stratospheric chemistry for both the gas and the aqueous phases (Sander et al., 2005). MECCA chemical mechanisms include basic O<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, NO<sub>X</sub>, and HO<sub>X</sub> chemistry, as well as non methane hydrocarbon (NMHC) chemistry, considering gas phase, aqueus phase, and heterogenous reactions. (Sander et al., 2005) For the numerical integration, MECCA uses the KPP software (Sandu and Sander, 2006), which takes chemical reactions and their rate coefficients and codes integral solutions to the system. The combination of the CAABA box model with MECCA module is called CAABA/MECCA and is currently at version 3. CAABA/MECCA been implemented for various calculations including ozone chemistry throughout the atmosphere in Zanis et al., 2014.

MECCA could also be used as the chemistry mechanism for a more complex, 3-dimensional model (e.g. Jöckel et al., 2006). The connection is established via the MESSy interface (http://www.messy-interface.org) developed by Jöckel, Sander, and Lelieveld, 2005 as part of an effort to simplify the framework for modelling the atmospheres at various scales. The user manual is available online at http://www.rolf-sander.net/messy/mecca/caaba\_mecca\_manual.pdf.

By allowing for interactions between boxes this concept can be extended to multiple-box models. These are simply multiple instances of single boxes with the addition of transport between them, which generally requires a meteorological model to provide winds, and other transport mechanisms.

#### Chemical transport

GEOS-Chem is an example of this, with many boxes covering the globe, each with chemistry and dynamic meteorological conditions. The transport between boxes also needs to be taken into account when simulating concentrations. Additionally the different meteorological conditions such as wind and air pressure need to be handled within each box. GEOS-Chem has a meteorological model coupled to a chemical model, which simulates the world in a three dimensional grid of connected boxes.

GEOS-Chem is a well supported global, Eulerian CTM with a state of the science chemical mechanism, with transport driven by meteorological input from the Goddard Earth Observing System (GEOS) of the NASA Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO). GEOS-Chem simulates more than 100 chemical species from

1.5. Models 33

the earth's surface up to the edge of space (0.01 hPa) and can be used in combination with remote and in-situ sensing data to give a verifiable estimate of atmospheric gases and aerosols. It was developed, and is maintained, by Harvard University staff as well as users and researchers worldwide. Several driving meteorological fields exist with different resolutions, the finest at 0.25 by 0.3125° horizontally at 5 minute time steps with 72 vertical levels.

Global CTMs are often run using one or several emission models (or the output from them) to determine boundary conditions for many gridboxes. TODO: is this the case? Doesn't GEOS-Chem have coupled chemistry and meteorology? Check the wiki. GEOS-Chem has boundary conditions based on several meteorological and emissions inventories, the following are the versions of theses used by GEOS-Chem v 10.01. Meteorological fields can be driven by NASA's GEOS-5 data (0.5° x 0.666°) (Chen et al., 2009), which exists up to 2013, or GEOS-FP data (0.25° x 0.3125°). Fire emissions come from the GFED4 product (Giglio, Randerson, and Van Der Werf, 2013). Anthropogenic VOC emissions come from the EDGAR inventory, while biogenic VOC emissions are coupled to the MEGAN model TODO:cites. The estimated biogenic VOC emissions are important for accurately simulating chemistry within models, as discussed in Sections 1.1.3 and 1.5.4.

The Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols in Nature (MEGAN) is one of the more commonly used natural emission models (Monks et al., 2015). (TODO: more cites which say this/use MEGAN)

#### Land based emissions

MEGAN can provide an estimate of biogenic emissions of various chemicals including isoprene and monoterpenes. It "is a modelling framework for estimating fluxes of biogenic compounds between terrestrial ecosystems and the atmosphere to account for the major known processes controlling biogenic emissions." (Guenther et al., 2012). It allows parameterisation of various BVOC emissions, with descriptions given in Guenther et al., 2012. Instructions to run version 2.1 are available at <a href="http://lar.wsu.edu/megan/docs/MEGAN2.1\_User\_GuideWSU.pdf">http://lar.wsu.edu/megan/docs/MEGAN2.1\_User\_GuideWSU.pdf</a>, and a version using the Community Land Model (CLM) is available at <a href="http://www.cesm.ucar.edu">http://www.cesm.ucar.edu</a>. It uses meteorological fields from the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) modelling system. Version 2.1 (updated from 2.0 (Guenther et al., 2006)) includes 147 species, in 19 BVOC classes, which can be lumped together to provide appropriate output for mechanisms in various chemical models.

MEGAN was developed as a replacement for two earlier canopy-environment emission models (BIES and GEIA), and initially included a simple canopy radiative transfer model, which parameterised sun-lit and shaded conditions through a canopy. Early models didn't account for abiotic stresses, such as drought, prior rainfall and development processes, although these influenced species specific emissions by more than an order of magnitude (Niinemets et al., 1999). MEGAN includes global measurements of leaf area index, plant functional type, and photosynthetic photon flux density, from remote sensing databases (Kefauver, Filella, and Peñuelas, 2014). Isoprene emissions were based on temperature, leaf area, and light, but have since been updated to include leaf age activity (Guenther et al., 2000), and a leaf energy balance model (Guenther et al., 2006) in MEGANv2.0. This update included a parameter for soil moisture, to account for drought conditions, however this parameter is currently (as of version 2.1) not applied to isoprene (Sindelarova et al., 2014). Soil moisture effects on isoprene emission are very important, and can drastically affect estimates.

MEGAN has recently been analysed using 30 years of meteorological reanalysis information by Sindelarova et al., 2014. They estimate emissions of Biogenic VOCs (BVOCs) to be 760 Tg(C)yr<sup>-1</sup>, 70% (532 Tg(C)yr<sup>-1</sup>) of which is isoprene. This is similar to isoprene emission estimates from MEGAN itself, of 400-600 Tg(C)yr<sup>-1</sup> (Guenther et al., 2006). MEGAN emissions estimates are termed bottom-up, as opposed to top-down which are derived from satellite measurements of the products of various VOCs. Using GOME satellite HCHO and a Beyesian inversion technique to derive isoprene emissions, Shim et al., 2005 estimated global isoprene emissions to be  $\sim$  566 TgC yr<sup>-1</sup>. This estimate is greater than initially thought and leads to decreased ( $\sim$  10%) simulated OH concentrations to 9.5e5 molec cm<sup>-3</sup>.

Improvements to emissions models require improved understanding of regions and their behaviour. Inaccuracies can arise due to lack of data, such as the large and sparsely measured Australian outback. MEGAN has been shown to overpredict isoprene and underpredict monoterpene emissions in southeast Australia, with peaks and troughs captured but not at the right magnitude (Emmerson et al., 2016).

#### Radiative transfer

TODO: Lidort example?

#### 1.5.3 Factors affecting isoprene emissions estimates

Marais et al., 2014 examine factors affecting isoprene emissions, showing how emissions are sensitive to various environmental factors. Their work used MEGAN (Guenther et al., 1995) and GEOS-Chem to look at how these factors affect surface ozone and particulate matter in Africa. One of the important uncertainties seen in MEGAN within this work is the isoprene emissions due to plant type. Canopy level isoprene measurements are made using relaxed eddy accumulation (REA) at several sites in Africa. One plant type near a measurement site emits more than other species and it's actual distribution on a larger scale is completely unknown - leading to possible overestimations in MEGAN. Current emissions estimates require more validation against observations, and recently a comparison of two major VOC models (MEGAN and ORCHIDEE) was undertaken by Messina et al., 2016 reiterating this requirement. In their work they examine model sensitivities and show that the important parameters are leaf area index (LAI), emission factors (EF), plant functional type (PFT), and light density fraction (LDF). There is high uncertainty in LAI and EF, which require more or improved measurements at the global scale. LDF paramterisation needs improvement and these models require more PFTs. Global emissions inventories like MEGAN suffer from large extrapolations which introduce uncertainties (Miller2014).

Emmerson et al., 2016 analyse EF sensitivity of a high resolution model of atmospheric chemistry over southeast Australia, comparing isoprene and monoterpene emissions against 4 separate campaigns. They show that the effect on total emissions is roughly linear and that no blanket EF changes are appropriate for all regions/seasons. They also mention that Australian eucalypt emissions are based on samples from young trees, which may emit more isoprene than older trees.

Stavrakou et al., 2014 examined modelled Asian emissions and altered model parameters for temperature, plant type emission factors, incoming solar radiation (insolation) intensity, land use changes, and palm tree forest expansion. Changes were constrained by a network of radiation measurements and some experiments with south east Asian forest emissions - and led to reduction in isoprene emissions by a

1.5. Models 35

factor of two over the region. The Asian region is also shown to have a strong correlation with the Oceanic Niño Index (ONI), with positive anomalies associated with El Niño. In the last 20 years anthropogenic emissions of VOCs have been increasing while biogenic VOC emissions have decreased due to rapid economic growth and lower annual temperatures (Stavrakou et al., 2014; Kwon et al., 2017).

#### 1.5.4 Uncertainties

Here I will attempt to list and partially explain the major uncertainties models have in relation to VOCs, SOAs, and ozone. TODO: Is this a good idea or should I put any pertinent uncertainties with the associated work/descriptions?

#### **Emissions Inventories**

Using different emissions inventories in an ACM can have large impacts on the simulation. Natural (biogenic or pyrogenic) and human driven (anthropogenic) emissions often drive a large fraction of atmospheric oxidation and radical chemistry, especially in the continental boundary layer. Zeng et al., 2015 examine the affects on CO and HCHO when running simulations with two different inventories. TODO: find where I took notes about Zeng2015 and put them here.

#### Resolution

GEOS-Chem simulations are somewhat sensitive to the resolution at which you run. For example: **Wild2006** show that reduced resolution increases OH concentrations and ozone production rates. Christian, Brune, and Mao, 2017 find small changes in OH (< 10%) in OH, HO $_2$  and ozone concentrations local to the north american arctic, when changing from 4 by 5 to 2 by 2.5 °resolution, however they continue at lower resolution to save computational time.

For many global scale analyses, errors from resolution are less important than those from chemistry, meteorology, and emissions (Christian, Brune, and Mao, 2017).

#### **Transport**

TODO: Literature showing transport uncertainties or lack thereof

#### Chemistry mechanisms

There is still much work to be done in models to correctly simulate the various precursors to HCHO. Often HCHO is used as a way of checking if these precursors are correctly modelled since HCHO measurements are more readily available (for instance from satellites). GEOS-Chem has recently been analysed for sensitivity for ozone along with oxidants (OH and HO<sub>2</sub>) (Christian, Brune, and Mao, 2017). Christian, Brune, and Mao, 2017 found that GEOS-Chem ozone was most sensitive to NO<sub>2</sub> photolysis, the  $NO_2 + OH$  reaction rate, and various emissions. They used GEOS-Chem v9-02, with  $4^{\circ} \times 5^{\circ}$  resolution, and while the low resolution adds errors in OH concentrations and O<sub>3</sub> production rates, the errors from chemistry, meteorology, and emissions are much larger.

Marvin2017 suggest that isoprene mechanisms in several contemporary models (including GEOS-Chem) are inadequate. They show that for a specific measurement campaign, the HCHO concentrations are underestimated in a way that

can not be easily fixed through rate constant changes. Recently **Marvin2017** compared five global ACMs isoprene mechanisms by evaluating simulated HCHO mixing ratios compared to in situ measurements from the Southeast Nexus (SENEX) aircraft campaign (in southeastern USA). They compared five models (GEOS-Chem, CB05, CB6r2, MCMv3.2, and MCMv3.3.1) and found all of them underestimated the HCHO concentrations (by 15-30%).

#### Clouds

One of the major uncertainties in chemical, climate, radiation, and weather models is cloud formation and dynamics. Clouds are remarkably complex at a much finer scale than can be accurately modelled by global chemistry models (with current processing power). Globally over half (50-60%) of the world is covered by clouds, with  $\sim 10\%$  of them being rain-clouds (Kanakidou et al., 2005). Wet scavenging performed in clouds not only depends on large scale cloud processes, but also on the microphysics of aerosols being scavenged, differing between aerosol sizes and hygroscopic properties.

#### **Soil Moisture**

Australia has a unique climate, along with soil moisture, clay content and other important properties which affect VOC emissions. These properties are poorly understood in Australia due to the continents size and the relative sparsity of population centres, which make many areas very difficult or expensive to reach. Soil moisture plays an important role in VOC emissions, as trees under stress may stop emitting various chemicals. This is especially true for Australia due to frequent droughts and wildfires. The argument for improved understanding of land surface properties, specifically soil moisture, is an old one(Chen2001; Mintz, 1982; Rowntree and Bolton, 1983). Rowntree and Bolton, 1983 show how quickly soil moisture anomalies affect rainfall and other weather systems, while Chen2001 specifically show how important fine scale soil moisture information is when modelling land surface heat flux, and energy balances. Modelled emissions are sensitive to soil moisture, especially near the soil moisture threshold (or wilting point), below which trees stop emitting isoprene and other VOCs completely as they can no longer draw water (Bauwens et al., 2016). MEGAN accounts for soil moisture by applying it as an emission factor (EF) which scales the emission rate of various species. Sindelarova et al., 2014 show reductions in modelled Australian isoprene emissions of 50% when incorporating soil moisture in MEGAN estimates.

Droughts affects can be difficult to measure, as it is a multi-scale problem which affects various aspects of the land-air interface including plant emissions and dry deposition (Wang et al., 2017). The Standardised Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a measure of drought using TODO *SPEI Drought Index*. This product covers 1901 - 2011, and uses the average over that period as the background, in order to compare drought stressed regions against those with sufficient or excess water *SPEI Drought Index*.

#### **1.6** Aims

TODO: outline of aims here (FIND THESE THEY ARE SOMEWHERE)

1.7. Data Access 37

#### 1.7 Data Access

TODO: ADD MORE HERE

**OMNO2d** Daily satellite NO<sub>2</sub> product downloaded from https://search.earthdata.nasa.gov/search, DOI:10.5067/Aura/OMI/DATA3007

**SPEI** Monthly standardised precipitation evapotranspiration index (metric to determine drought stress) downloaded from http://hdl.handle.net/10261/153475 with DOI:10.20350/digitalCSIC/8508

**OMHCHO** Satellite swaths of HCHO slant columns downloaded from TODO, with DOI TODO

# Appendix A

# Appendix A

# A.1 Grid Resolution

Level         z(km)         eta           1         0.058483         0.9925000           2         0.188515         0.9774560           3         0.320427         0.9623700           4         0.453892         0.9472850           5         0.588963         0.9322000           6         0.725697         0.9171160           7         0.864132         0.9020310           8         1.004320         0.8869480           9         1.146330         0.8718640           10         1.290220         0.8567810           11         1.436040         0.8416980           12         1.583870         0.8266160           13         1.758950         0.8090210           14         1.988400         0.7864000           15         2.249380         0.7612650           16         2.517070         0.7361340           17         2.791920         0.7110060           18         3.074460         0.6858780           19         3.439220         0.6544710           20         3.895550         0.6167900           21         4.374520         0.5937950           24	
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8         1.004320         0.8869480           9         1.146330         0.8718640           10         1.290220         0.8567810           11         1.436040         0.8416980           12         1.583870         0.8266160           13         1.758950         0.8090210           14         1.988400         0.7864000           15         2.249380         0.7612650           16         2.517070         0.7361340           17         2.791920         0.7110060           18         3.074460         0.6858780           19         3.439220         0.6544710           20         3.895550         0.6167900           21         4.374520         0.5791150           22         4.879030         0.5414490           23         5.412570         0.5037950           24         5.979530         0.4661530           25         6.585330         0.4285280           26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           3	
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10         1.290220         0.8567810           11         1.436040         0.8416980           12         1.583870         0.8266160           13         1.758950         0.8090210           14         1.988400         0.7864000           15         2.249380         0.7612650           16         2.517070         0.7361340           17         2.791920         0.7110060           18         3.074460         0.6858780           19         3.439220         0.6544710           20         3.895550         0.6167900           21         4.374520         0.5791150           22         4.879030         0.5414490           23         5.412570         0.5037950           24         5.979530         0.4661530           25         6.585330         0.4285280           26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           30         11.020800         0.2237720           31         12.085500         0.1900610           <	
11         1.436040         0.8416980           12         1.583870         0.8266160           13         1.758950         0.8090210           14         1.988400         0.7864000           15         2.249380         0.7612650           16         2.517070         0.7361340           17         2.791920         0.7110060           18         3.074460         0.6858780           19         3.439220         0.6544710           20         3.895550         0.6167900           21         4.374520         0.5791150           22         4.879030         0.5414490           23         5.412570         0.5037950           24         5.979530         0.4661530           25         6.585330         0.4285280           26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           30         11.020800         0.2237720           31         12.085500         0.1900610           32         13.133500         0.1615130	
12         1.583870         0.8266160           13         1.758950         0.8090210           14         1.988400         0.7864000           15         2.249380         0.7612650           16         2.517070         0.7361340           17         2.791920         0.7110060           18         3.074460         0.6858780           19         3.439220         0.6544710           20         3.895550         0.6167900           21         4.374520         0.5791150           22         4.879030         0.5414490           23         5.412570         0.5037950           24         5.979530         0.4661530           25         6.585330         0.4285280           26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           30         11.020800         0.2237720           31         12.085500         0.1900610           32         13.133500         0.1615130           33         14.169600         0.1372870	
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16         2.517070         0.7361340           17         2.791920         0.7110060           18         3.074460         0.6858780           19         3.439220         0.6544710           20         3.895550         0.6167900           21         4.374520         0.5791150           22         4.879030         0.5414490           23         5.412570         0.5037950           24         5.979530         0.4661530           25         6.585330         0.4285280           26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           30         11.020800         0.2237720           31         12.085500         0.1900610           32         13.133500         0.1615130           33         14.169600         0.1372870           34         15.198200         0.1166950           35         16.221700         0.0991911           36         17.242600         0.0843127           37         18.727200         0.0665589	
17         2.791920         0.7110060           18         3.074460         0.6858780           19         3.439220         0.6544710           20         3.895550         0.6167900           21         4.374520         0.5791150           22         4.879030         0.5414490           23         5.412570         0.5037950           24         5.979530         0.4661530           25         6.585330         0.4285280           26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           30         11.020800         0.2237720           31         12.085500         0.1900610           32         13.133500         0.1615130           33         14.169600         0.1372870           34         15.198200         0.1166950           35         16.221700         0.0991911           36         17.242600         0.0843127           37         18.727200         0.0665589           38         20.835700         0.0476409	
18       3.074460       0.6858780         19       3.439220       0.6544710         20       3.895550       0.6167900         21       4.374520       0.5791150         22       4.879030       0.5414490         23       5.412570       0.5037950         24       5.979530       0.4661530         25       6.585330       0.4285280         26       7.236820       0.3909270         27       7.943070       0.3533490         28       8.845840       0.3098540         29       9.936460       0.2635870         30       11.020800       0.2237720         31       12.085500       0.1900610         32       13.133500       0.1615130         33       14.169600       0.1372870         34       15.198200       0.1166950         35       16.221700       0.0991911         36       17.242600       0.0843127         37       18.727200       0.0665589         38       20.835700       0.0476409	
19       3.439220       0.6544710         20       3.895550       0.6167900         21       4.374520       0.5791150         22       4.879030       0.5414490         23       5.412570       0.5037950         24       5.979530       0.4661530         25       6.585330       0.4285280         26       7.236820       0.3909270         27       7.943070       0.3533490         28       8.845840       0.3098540         29       9.936460       0.2635870         30       11.020800       0.2237720         31       12.085500       0.1900610         32       13.133500       0.1615130         33       14.169600       0.1372870         34       15.198200       0.1166950         35       16.221700       0.0991911         36       17.242600       0.0843127         37       18.727200       0.0665589         38       20.835700       0.0476409	
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21       4.374520       0.5791150         22       4.879030       0.5414490         23       5.412570       0.5037950         24       5.979530       0.4661530         25       6.585330       0.4285280         26       7.236820       0.3909270         27       7.943070       0.3533490         28       8.845840       0.3098540         29       9.936460       0.2635870         30       11.020800       0.2237720         31       12.085500       0.1900610         32       13.133500       0.1615130         33       14.169600       0.1372870         34       15.198200       0.1166950         35       16.221700       0.0991911         36       17.242600       0.0843127         37       18.727200       0.0665589         38       20.835700       0.0476409	
22       4.879030       0.5414490         23       5.412570       0.5037950         24       5.979530       0.4661530         25       6.585330       0.4285280         26       7.236820       0.3909270         27       7.943070       0.3533490         28       8.845840       0.3098540         29       9.936460       0.2635870         30       11.020800       0.2237720         31       12.085500       0.1900610         32       13.133500       0.1615130         33       14.169600       0.1372870         34       15.198200       0.1166950         35       16.221700       0.0991911         36       17.242600       0.0843127         37       18.727200       0.0665589         38       20.835700       0.0476409	
23         5.412570         0.5037950           24         5.979530         0.4661530           25         6.585330         0.4285280           26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           30         11.020800         0.2237720           31         12.085500         0.1900610           32         13.133500         0.1615130           33         14.169600         0.1372870           34         15.198200         0.1166950           35         16.221700         0.0991911           36         17.242600         0.0843127           37         18.727200         0.0665589           38         20.835700         0.0476409	
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25       6.585330       0.4285280         26       7.236820       0.3909270         27       7.943070       0.3533490         28       8.845840       0.3098540         29       9.936460       0.2635870         30       11.020800       0.2237720         31       12.085500       0.1900610         32       13.133500       0.1615130         33       14.169600       0.1372870         34       15.198200       0.1166950         35       16.221700       0.0991911         36       17.242600       0.0843127         37       18.727200       0.0665589         38       20.835700       0.0476409	
26         7.236820         0.3909270           27         7.943070         0.3533490           28         8.845840         0.3098540           29         9.936460         0.2635870           30         11.020800         0.2237720           31         12.085500         0.1900610           32         13.133500         0.1615130           33         14.169600         0.1372870           34         15.198200         0.1166950           35         16.221700         0.0991911           36         17.242600         0.0843127           37         18.727200         0.0665589           38         20.835700         0.0476409	
27     7.943070     0.3533490       28     8.845840     0.3098540       29     9.936460     0.2635870       30     11.020800     0.2237720       31     12.085500     0.1900610       32     13.133500     0.1615130       33     14.169600     0.1372870       34     15.198200     0.1166950       35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	
28       8.845840       0.3098540         29       9.936460       0.2635870         30       11.020800       0.2237720         31       12.085500       0.1900610         32       13.133500       0.1615130         33       14.169600       0.1372870         34       15.198200       0.1166950         35       16.221700       0.0991911         36       17.242600       0.0843127         37       18.727200       0.0665589         38       20.835700       0.0476409	
29     9.936460     0.2635870       30     11.020800     0.2237720       31     12.085500     0.1900610       32     13.133500     0.1615130       33     14.169600     0.1372870       34     15.198200     0.1166950       35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	
31     12.085500     0.1900610       32     13.133500     0.1615130       33     14.169600     0.1372870       34     15.198200     0.1166950       35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	
31     12.085500     0.1900610       32     13.133500     0.1615130       33     14.169600     0.1372870       34     15.198200     0.1166950       35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	0
32     13.133500     0.1615130       33     14.169600     0.1372870       34     15.198200     0.1166950       35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	
34     15.198200     0.1166950       35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	
34     15.198200     0.1166950       35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	0
35     16.221700     0.0991911       36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	
36     17.242600     0.0843127       37     18.727200     0.0665589       38     20.835700     0.0476409	0
38 20.835700 0.0476409	70
	0
	0
40 25.306800 0.0237552	20
41 28.654300 0.0143424	0
42 34.024400 0.0065875	54
43 40.166100 0.0028163	39
44 47.135400 0.0011091	0
45 54.833600 0.0003987	78
46 63.052800 0.0001269	9
47 72.180100 0.0000276	3

Table A.1: The 47 level vertical grid used by GEOS-Chem

# Appendix B

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## B.1 How do I change the colors of links?

The color of links can be changed to your liking using:

\hypersetup{urlcolor=red}, or

\hypersetup{citecolor=green}, or

\hypersetup{allcolor=blue}.

If you want to completely hide the links, you can use:

\hypersetup{allcolors=.}, or even better:

\hypersetup{hidelinks}.

If you want to have obvious links in the PDF but not the printed text, use:

\hypersetup{colorlinks=false}.

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